SHONEN JUMP MANGA

vol. 14

NISEKOI

False Love

Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

The other day, I participated in my first ever book signing event in Taiwan. Honestly, I was nervous because it was my first time meeting fans in real life, but I was very moved by their enthusiasm. It gave me new motivation.

Naoshi Komi

NAOSHI KOMI was born in Kochi Prefecture, Japan, on March 28, 1986. His first serialized work in *Weekly Shonen Jump* was the series *Double Arts*. His current series, *Nisekoi*, is serialized in *Weekly Shonen Jump*.

NISEKOI:
False Love
VOLUME 14
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

Translation ✓ Camellia Nieh
Touch-Up Art & Lettering ✓ Stephen Dutro
Design ✓ Fawn Lau
Shonen Jump Series Editor ✓ John Bae
Graphic Novel Editor ✓ Amy Yu

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First published in Japan in 2011
by SHUEISHA Inc., Tokyo.
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Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, March 2016

RATED T FOR TEEN

PARENTAL ADVISORY
NISEKOI: FALSE LOVE is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

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NISEKOI

False Love

vol. 14: Big Sister

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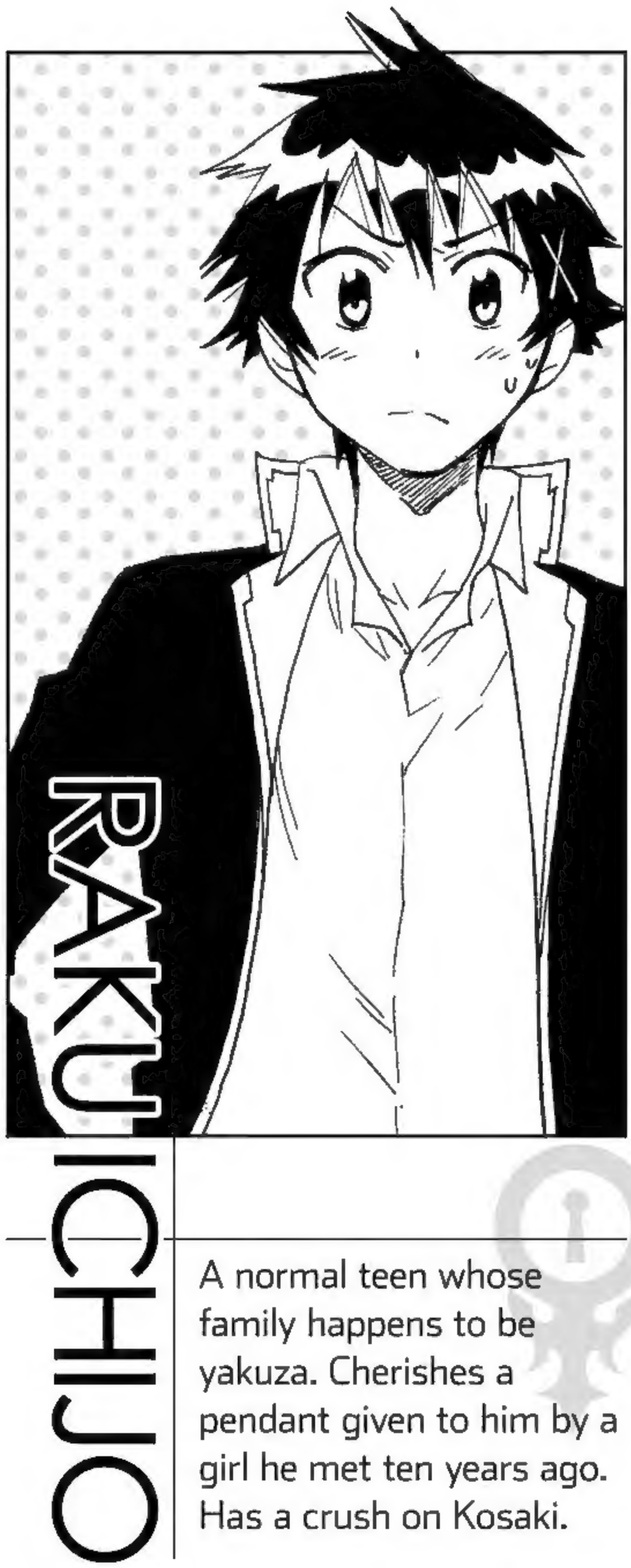
NAOSHI KOMI

CHITOGE KIRISAKI

A half-Japanese bombshell with stellar athletic abilities. Short-tempered and violent. Comes from a family of gangsters.



RAKU ICHIJO

A normal teen whose family happens to be yakuza. Cherishes a pendant given to him by a girl he met ten years ago. Has a crush on Kosaki.

CHARACTERS & STORY

Raku Ichijo is an ordinary teen...who just happens to come from a family of yakuza! His most treasured item is a pendant he was given ten years ago by a girl whom he promised to meet again one day and marry.

Thanks to family circumstances, Raku is forced into a false relationship with Chitoge, the daughter of a rival gangster, to keep their families from shedding blood. Despite their constant spats, Raku and Chitoge manage to fool everyone. One day, Chitoge discovers an old key, jogging memories of her own first love ten years earlier. Meanwhile, Raku's crush, Kosaki, confesses that she also has a key and made a promise with a boy ten years ago. To complicate matters, Marika Tachibana has a key as well and remembers a promise ten years ago. The mystery keeps getting more complex!

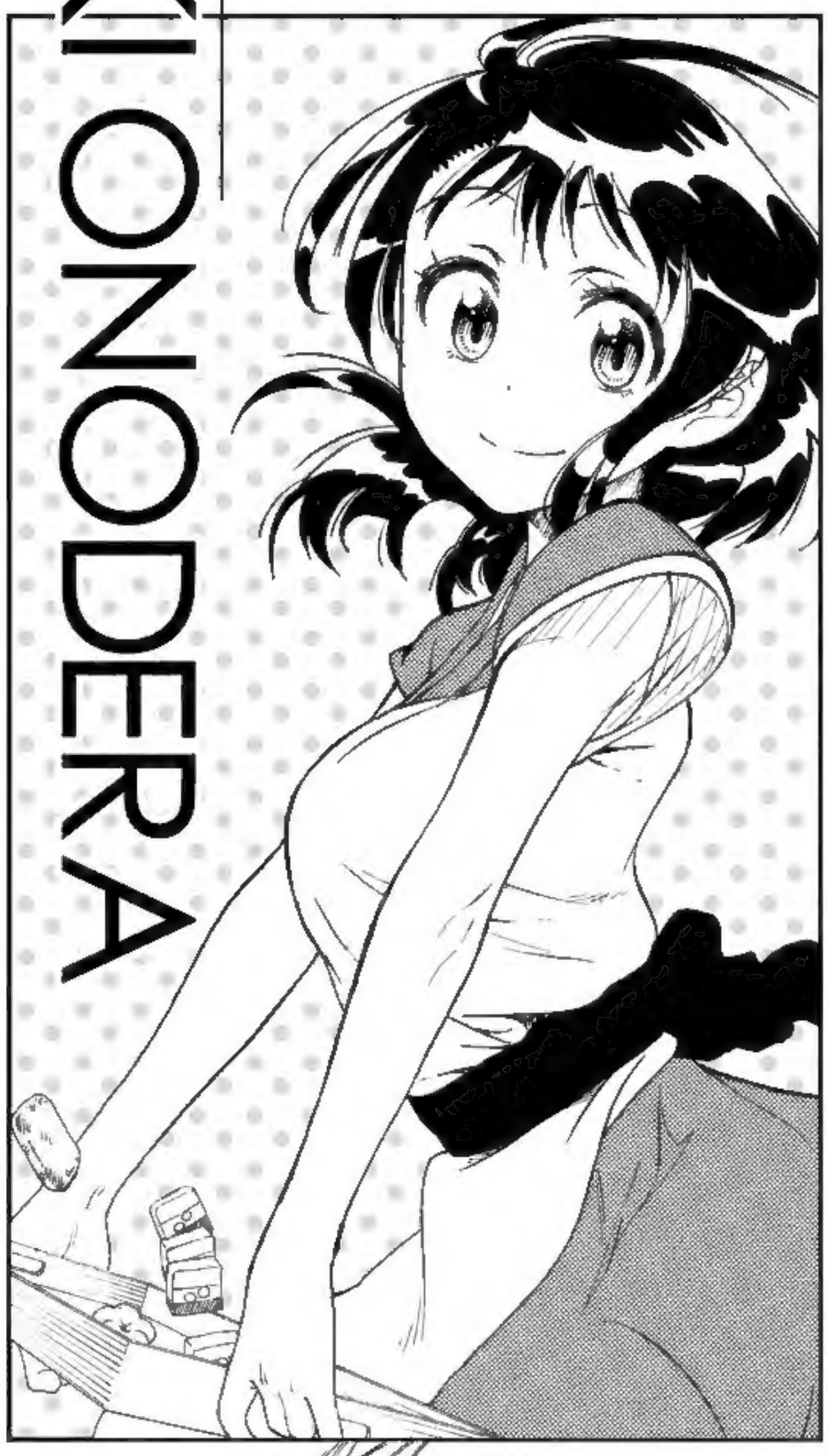
Raku and friends get together to tackle their summer homework. To Raku's delight, Marika packs an ultra tasty lunch for him. Not wanting to be bested, Chitoge tries to make lunch for Raku too, but her efforts keep failing... In the end, she makes him rice balls, and Raku sings their praises. But what effect will Raku's praise have on Chitoge's heart?!

MARIKA TACHIBANA

Daughter of the chief of police, Marika is Raku's fiancée, according to an agreement made by their fathers—an agreement Marika takes very seriously! Also has a key and remembers making a promise with Raku ten years ago.

KOSAKI ONODERA

A girl Raku has a crush on. Beautiful and sweet, Kosaki has no shortage of admirers. She's a terrible cook but makes food that *looks* amazing.



SHU MAIKO

Raku's best friend is outgoing and girl-crazy.

SEISHIRO TSUGUMI

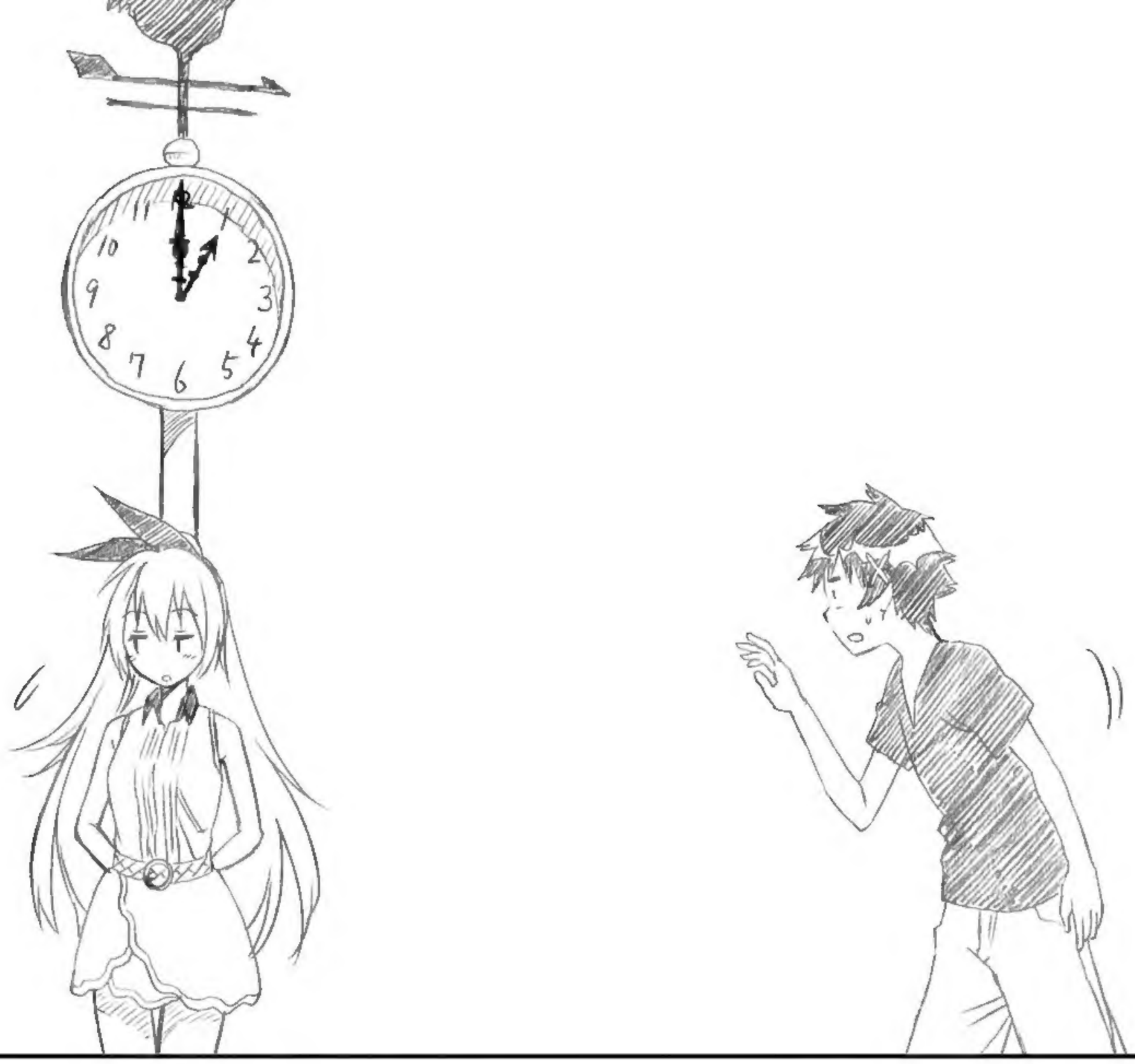
Trained as an assassin in order to protect Chitoge, Tsugumi is often mistaken for a boy.

HARU ONODERA

Kosaki's adoring younger sister. Has a low opinion of Raku.

RURI MIYAMOTO

Kosaki's best gal pal. Comes off as aloof, but is actually a devoted and highly intuitive friend.



NISEKOI

False Love

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MIN MIN MIN

SIGH.

I CAN'T BELIEVE SUMMER'S ALMOST OVER!

YEAH.

YEAH.

WE'VE GOTTA MAKE THE MOST OF THE LAST OF OUR VACATION!

WE FINISHED ALL OF OUR SUMMER HOMEWORK, AND WE'LL GET THE BBQ STUFF READY EARLY SO WE CAN HAVE FUN IN THE SUN ALL DAY!

I CAN'T WAIT TO GO TO THE BEACH WITH EVERYONE NEXT WEEK.

OOG!

YEAH... FOR SOME REASON MY STOMACH'S BEEN HURTING ALL DAY.

WHAT'S WITH YOU? YOU'RE KINDA QUIET.

WHAT'S WRONG? HELLO?

H-HEY, RAKU!

OW... OW OW OW...

AUGH !!

FWUMP

HUH ?!

RAKU...? WHAT'S THE MATTER?!

?!

WEE-OO WEE-OO

CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

RAKU, ARE YOU OKAY?!

FIVE DAYS LATER...

THEY TOOK YOUR APPENDIX OUT?

APPENDI-CITIS?

Chapter 117: Stomach Pain

IF THEY HADN'T OPERATED WHEN THEY DID, I WOULD'VE BEEN A GONER!

IT *WAS* SERIOUS!

SHEESH! AND I WAS WORRIED IT WAS SERIOUS!

IF YOU EVER GET MYSTERIOUS STOMACH PAINS, BE SURE TO SEE A DOCTOR RIGHT AWAY!

THEY CAN USUALLY CURE YOU IF YOU CATCH IT IN TIME, BUT IF YOU IGNORE THE PAIN AND WAIT TOO LONG, YOU CAN ACTUALLY DIE!

GRR!

LISTEN, PEOPLE THINK APPENDICITIS IS NO BIG DEAL, BUT IT IS!

OKAY, OKAY.

Thanks for raising awareness.

There's even drug treatment for it now!

I COULDN'T EAT FOR A WHILE, AND I COULD HARDLY MOVE...

WHEN THE ANESTHETIC WORE OFF I WAS IN SO MUCH PAIN...

THE TOUGH PART WAS RIGHT AFTER THE OPERATION.

ANYWAY, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD SURGERY.

GEEZ, THAT SOUNDS TERRIBLE!

YEAH. THEY SAID I CAN GO HOME IN THREE MORE DAYS.

OH, GOOD.

SO...

IS EVERY-THING GOING OKAY NOW?

NO. RYU AND THE OTHER GUYS CAUSED SUCH A RUCKUS THE FIRST DAY, THEY BANNED VISITORS FOR A WHILE...

We brought ya lotsa flowers!

YOUNG MASTER!

IS THAT WHY NOBODY COULD SEE YOU FOR FIVE DAYS?

We were so worried!

INFLUENZA TIPS

WE CANCELED IT.

IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN THE SAME.

GEEZ. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

HEY, HOW WAS THE BEACH?

See ya, Bean Sprout!

WELL...

THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU REST UP AND FEEL BETTER.

OH! THANK YOU.

...SO MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE WILL COME TODAY TOO.

I TEXTED EVERYONE THAT YOU CAN HAVE VISITORS NOW...

CLOP

CLOP

WAS IT MY IMAGINATION OR WAS SHE BEING NICER THAN USUAL?

GEE, I WASN'T EXPECTING CHITOGE TO COME AND SEE ME.

I guess she had to come since we're fake dating.

OOH, THAT WOULD BE SO AWE-SOME...

LIKE ONODERA, MAYBE?

WONDER IF ANYONE ELSE'LL COME...

Heh heh

OH, HI SHU.

That's grati-tude for ya!

GEE, YOU SOUND THRILLED TO SEE ME!

YOO-HOO!

HOW'S IT GOING, RAKU?

SHFF

KNOCK KNOCK

B-BMP

I BROUGHT YOU SOME APPLES.

WANT SOME?

WELL, THAT'S GOOD.

I CAN HAVE THEM GRATED.

RUSTLE

SO, APPENDI-CITIS, HUH?

ARE YOU DOING BETTER NOW?

YEAH. JUST THE INCISION STILL HURTS.

TEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE

ARE THERE ANY CUTE NURSES?

SO... RAKU...

HOW'S THE SCENE HERE?

HUH?

THE WHAT?

TEE HEE ♡

MAYBE YOU SHOULD GET AN OPERATION TOO. ON YOUR BRAIN.

WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO BE IN HER CARE...

DUDE, I PASSED THE MOST GORGEOUS NURSE IN THE HALL!!

NURSE UNIFORMS ARE SO HOT!!

Y'KNOW...

IT'S NICE EVEN TO HAVE SHU COME AND VISIT.

IT'S PRETTY LONELY IN THE HOSPITAL.

COOL.

I APPRECIATE THAT. IT'S PRETTY DULL HERE.

To see the nurses too!

I'LL COME AGAIN WHEN I HAVE TIME!

BYE, RAKU!

DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING?

SHU?

SHEFF

KNOCK KNOCK

WONDER IF ANYONE ELSE'LL VISIT...

YAWN...

PEEK

OH NO!!

OOG! OW OW OW OW !!

ONODE-

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, ICHIJO?

ONODERA'S VISITING ME IN THE HOSPITAL!!

IS THIS FOR REAL?!

THANKS SO MUCH FOR COMING, ONODERA!

YOU CAN SIT UP NOW?

YEAH, NO SWEAT.

SURE!

CHITOGE TEXTED...

SHE'S PEELING ME AN APPLE!

GEE... I'M IN HEAVEN!

SHK SHK

I brought you some!

SHALL I PEEL THEM FOR YOU?

OH, HEY! WOULD YOU CARE FOR SOME APPLES?

WOW, THANKS!!

DID YOU COME ALONE?

RURI'S COMING TOO....

BUT SHE'LL BE A LITTLE LATE.

SHE'D LOOK GREAT IN A WHITE UNIFORM...

COME TO THINK OF IT, ONODERA WOULD MAKE AN AWESOME NURSE...

?

Do you have any pain?

DON'T BE SORRY.

WE'RE JUST SORRY YOU HAD TO GO THROUGH THIS.

I HEARD YOU GUYS CANCELED IT.

BY THE WAY... SORRY ABOUT THE BEACH TRIP.

YIKES! WHAT AM I THINKING?!

SHAKA SHAKA

?

BLUSH

I WAS SUPER WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

ANYWAY, I'M GLAD YOU'RE FEELING BETTER.

GEE, I WONDER WHAT'S TAKING RURI SO LONG.

BZZ ! BZZ !

Where is she, anyway?

OH... DON'T MEN- TION IT!

WOW... TH- THANKS, ONODERA.

ONODERA WAS SUPER- WORRIED ABOUT ME?!

KA SHINK

?!

To Ruri

Sub Re: Hurry up!

I'm going to eat ramen. Have a nice time!

I can't do this alone!

SHE PROMISED SHE'D BE HERE!

THAT RURI!

OKAY. THANKS FOR COMING, ONO-DERA.

LEAVING ALREADY?

WELL... HA HA HA... SEE YOU LATER, ICHIJO. FEEL BETTER... I'LL COME AGAIN!

RUSH RUSH

!!

TSU-GUMI!

PARDON ME, RAKU ICHIJO.

IT MEANS A LOT THAT SHE CAME TO SEE ME.

WELL, THAT WAS SHORT BUT SWEET.

KNOCK KNOCK

PLIP

MUCH BETTER. I CAN GO HOME IN THREE DAYS.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

THAT'S GOOD.

YOU'RE THE MISTRESS'S BOYFRIEND, AFTER ALL. I THOUGHT I SHOULD PAY MY RESPECTS.

WELL, YEAH.

YOU CAME TO SEE ME?

WHAT A SUR-PRISE!

THE MISTRESS WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

HUH?

OOF...

My third apple...

WELL...

SINCE I'M HERE, I GUESS I'LL PEEL YOU AN APPLE.

REALLY?

SHE COULD BARELY EVEN EAT.

SHE JUST HOLED UP ALONE IN HER ROOM.

IT'S BEEN PRETTY ROUGH SINCE YOU'VE BEEN IN HERE.

UH, SHE SOUNDS FINE TO ME...

SHE COULD ONLY STOMACH FOUR BOWLS OF RICE WITH EACH MEAL...

Poor thing!

I DON'T GET IT.

WHY WOULD CHITOGE WORRY THAT MUCH ABOUT ME?

THANKS. I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN.

DON'T KEEP HER WAITING TOO LONG. COME HOME AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

WHEN THE MISTRESS IS DISTRESSED, I AM TOO. ANYWAY ...

SLAM!

Sheesh!

OKAY, OKAY, I GET IT!

I HOPE I MADE MYSELF CLEAR!

LOOK, THE MISTRESS IS WORRIED ABOUT YOU, NOT ME!

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

HUH?

WAS CHITOGE REALLY THAT WORRIED ABOUT ME?

COULD THAT BE TRUE?

She sure doesn't show it!

OH, MY DARLING RAKU!!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

I'M SO SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG!!

RAKU DEEAR-EST!!

SHOOP

I HEARD YOU COLLAPSED AND HAD TO HAVE AN OPERATION!

HERE... I FOLDED YOU A THOUSAND PAPER CRANES!

ER... WOW... UM... LET'S CALM DOWN A LITTLE...

Heh...

PHEW...

EXCUSE ME FOR THE OUT-BURST.

I'M SO RELIEVED YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.

Nurse

BUT A NURSE CAUGHT ME CAMPING OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL...

WHAT?! THIS ISN'T A ROCK CONCERT!

HEH!

I WANTED TO COME THE INSTANT YOU WERE ALLOWED VISITORS...

I'LL COME AGAIN TOMOR-ROW!

WELL, I DON'T WANT TO TIRE YOU OUT, SO I'LL BE GOING.

THANK YOU, TACHI-BANA!

LET ME PEEL YOU AN APPLE.

ANYHOW, I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE RECOVERING.

OH NO!

OH?

YOU CAN'T CAMP HERE!!

I'M A PRETTY LUCKY GUY.

Yo, Lookin' good, Master!

Thanks!

We just happened to be in the neighbor-hood...

Hey, Haru and Fu!

I REALLY APPRECI-ATE MY FRIENDS AT A TIME LIKE THIS.

WELL, I'VE GOTTA SAY...

HUSH

IT WAS SO LIVELY AROUND HERE IN THE DAYTIME...

IT FEELS ALL THE MORE LONELY AT NIGHT.

KNOCK KNOCK

HMM?

I SHOULD REALLY THANK HER.

THE WHOLE REASON EVERYONE CAME WAS CHITOGE'S TEXT.

FWSH

DON'T TELL ME THIS PLACE IS HAUNT-ED...

WHAT COULD THAT BE? I'M ON THE FOURTH FLOOR...

TMP

KNOCK

KNOCK

WAVE

good evening

JUST KID-DING.

I FORGOT TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING WHEN I VISITED EARLIER.

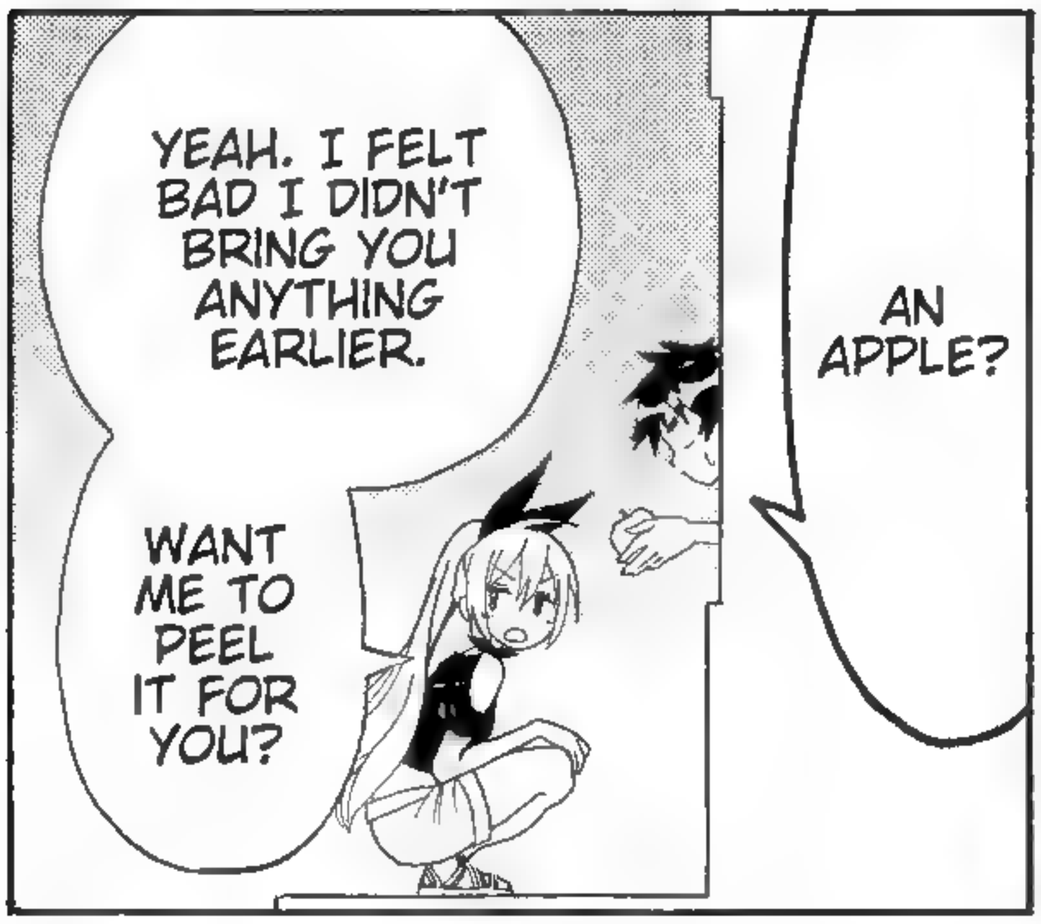
HERE.

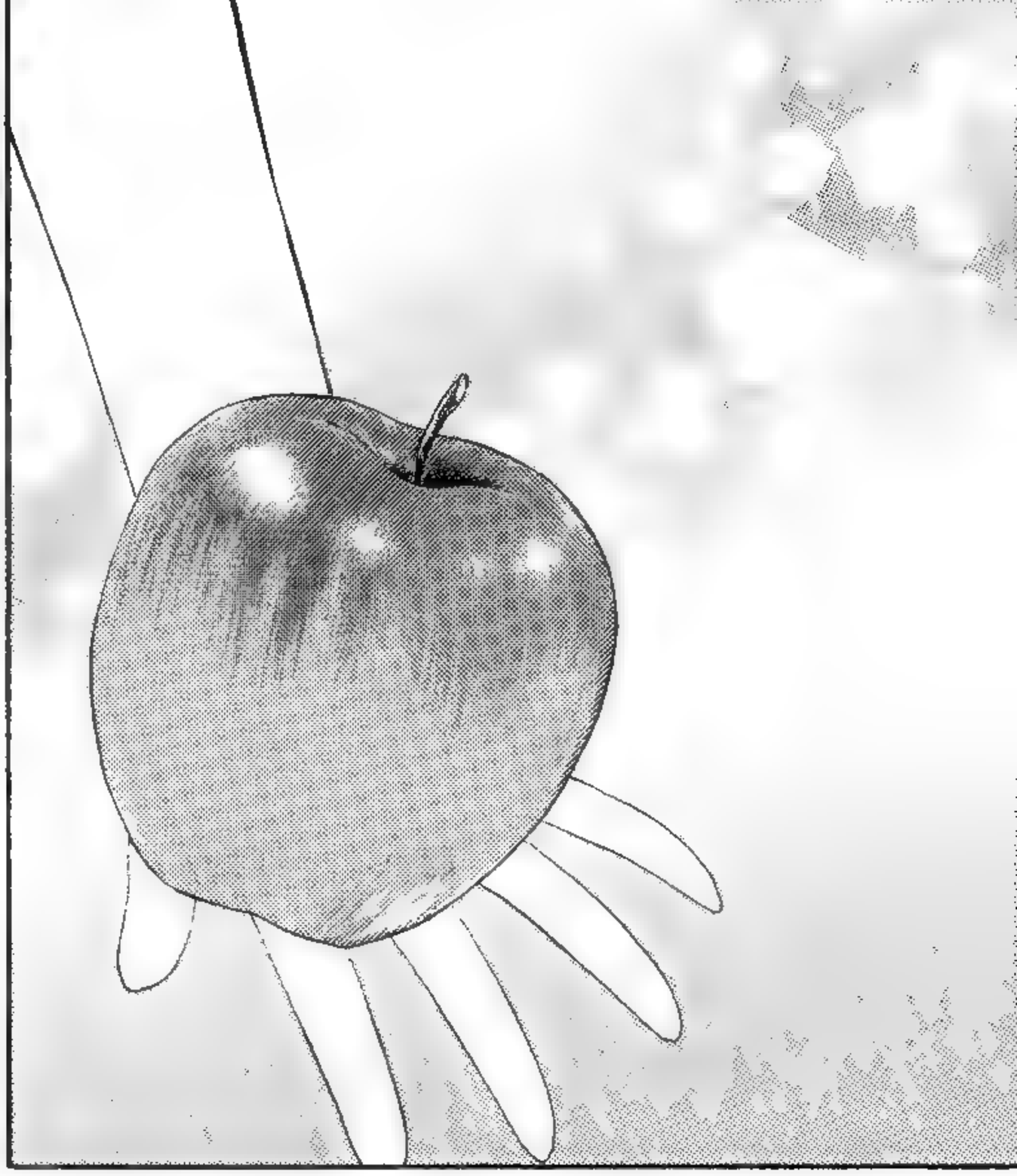
GOOD QUESTION. WHAT AM I DOING?

WHAT?!

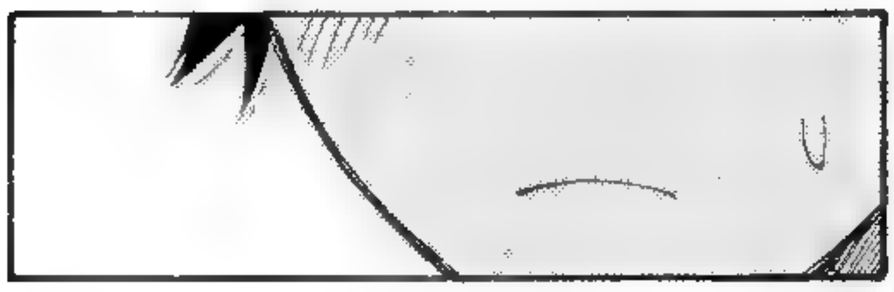
WHAT'RE YOU DOING OUT THERE?!

CHITOGE?!


YEAH. I FELT BAD I DIDN'T BRING YOU ANYTHING EARLIER.
WANT ME TO PEEL IT FOR YOU?
AN APPLE?



NOTH-ING...
YEAH. WHAT ABOUT IT?
YOU CAME JUST TO BRING ME THIS?
WAIT ...



...CHITOGE.
THANK YOU...

THIS IS SO STRANGE...
YEAH, YOU HAVE! THERE'S STILL SOME FRUIT LEFT!
WATCH THIS. I'VE GOTTEN BETTER AT THIS.
NOT SO LONG AGO, THIS WOULD'VE BEEN UNIMAGINABLE.
THEY'LL HAFTA CATCH ME FIRST.
Y'KNOW, IF THEY CATCH YOU OUT THERE, YOU'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE.

HEY...

...I WAS WONDER-ING...

WHEN YOU GET OUT OF THE HOSPITAL...

DON'T MENTION IT.

I HAD TOO MANY APPLES AT HOME, THAT'S ALL.

WHERE'S THE NURSE CALL BUTTON?!

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!

OH NO! ARE YOU OKAY?

MY STOMACH... IT HURTS...

?

WHAT'S WRONG ?

I'M SORRY.

WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?

YOU ATE TOO MANY APPLES.

AFTER RUNNING SOME TESTS, RAKU HAD TO STAY TWO EXTRA DAYS IN THE HOSPITAL.

Chapter 118: Big Sister

NISEKOI
False Love

VREEE

CLOP

EEEEE

IT'S BEEN SO LONG!

JAPAN...

...RAKKY'S DOING?

I WONDER HOW...

KA

KLINK

YEAH...

TIME SURE DOES FLY!

SIGH. I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S THE LAST DAY OF SUMMER VACATION!

OH, WELL...

WHAT'S WITH YOU? YOU SEEM LOST IN THOUGHT.

I GUESS IT'S NOT A VERY WELL-KNOWN BOOK.

NO BOOKSTORES SEEM TO HAVE IT.

I LOOKED IT UP...

BUT I COULDN'T FIND ANY INFO ON IT.

OH...

That's odd.

REMEMBER THE OTHER DAY...

...WHEN WE FOUND THAT PICTURE BOOK IN ONODERA'S ROOM?

WELL, THERE'S NOT MUCH WE CAN DO RIGHT NOW, RIGHT?

I know you really want to know and all...

WONDER WHEN WE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF ALL THESE MYSTERIES. THE PROMISES, THE KEYS...

WELL THEN ... WANNA COME TO MY HOUSE?

I BORROWED IT FROM ONODERA, SO I HAVE IT THERE.

Besides, there's nothing else to do.

CAN I READ THAT PICTURE BOOK AGAIN?

I ONLY READ IT ONCE SO I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER IT.

SURE.

?

集英

The last time was when he was sick last year...

THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN OFTEN...

WE'LL BE ALONE TOGETHER IN RAKU'S ROOM...

B-BMP B-BMP

SIGN: SHUEI

WELCOME HOME, YOUNG MASTER!

The Young Mistress too!

TA-DAA!!

WE GOT A VERY IMPOR-TANT VISITOR!

WHAT, YA HAVEN'T HEARD?

WHY'RE YOU ALL DRESSED UP?

RYU?

? ?

In suits!

OH... I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU GUYS THOUGHT ABOUT THOSE KINDS OF THINGS...

Etiquette and stuff...

CHAR... COAL?

WE GOT OUR BEST DUDS ON 'CAUSE WE WOULDN'T WANNA OFFEND 'EM!!

THE CHAR SIU KAI IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST ORGANIZA-TIONS IN THE WORLD!

THE BOSS OF THE CHAR SIU KAI CHINESE MAFIA SYNDICATE!

DON'T WORRY, YOUNG MASTER! YOU'RE ALREADY ACQUAINT-ED!

HUH?

HUH?! FOR REAL?!

I'm supposed to meet some mafi-oso?!

YOUR FATHER WISHES TO INTRODUCE YOU TO HIS GUEST!

HMM?

WELL, ANYWAY, I'LL BE BACK SOON.

OKAY. GOOD LUCK.

I HAVE NO MEMORY OF EVER MEETING THIS PERSON ...

I'm con-fused.

YOU KNOW SOME BIG-SHOT CHINESE MAFIA BOSS?!

Right this way!

THAT'S WEIRD...

I'VE NEVER SEEN A WOMAN HERE BEFORE!

SHE'S SUPER BEAUTIFUL!

IS SHE A VISITOR?

RAKKY?

HUH?

...?!

BIG SIS YUI...

IS THAT YOU?!

RAKKY!

VOOSH!

EEEK!!

WOW!!

WHAT A SURPRISE! GEE, IT REALLY HAS BEEN A LONG TIME!!

LONG TIME NO SEE! WOW, YOU'VE REALLY GROWN, RAKKY!

HOW'VE YOU BEEN?

OOPS, SORRY. I SHOULD HAVE INTRODUCED YOU TWO.

YOUR SISTER? I THOUGHT YOU WERE AN ONLY CHILD, RAKU!

ER... WHO'S THIS?

Hey...

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED! I KNEW IT WAS YOU RIGHT AWAY, RAKKY!

I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU AT FIRST, YUI!

UM, HOW SHOULD I EXPLAIN ...

I'M YUI KANAKURA!

RAKU AND I USED TO PLAY TOGETHER WHEN WE WERE LITTLE!

PLEASED TO MEET YOU!

HOW COME YOU DIDN'T TELL ME YOU WERE COMING?

WOW, IT'S BEEN SO LONG! SIX OR SEVEN YEARS, I'D SAY!

TEE HEE! I WANTED IT TO BE A SURPRISE!

CHILDHOOD FRIENDS?

YEAH... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY WE WERE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU!

R-RIGHT! I'M CHITOGE KIRISAKI, RAKU'S GIRLFRIEND!

HA HA!

MY FRIEND? WELL, UH...

SHE'S MY GIRL-FRIEND, ACTU-ALLY...

HUH?!

SO WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?

YOU KNOW HIM, YUI?

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE THE DAUGHTER OF DON KIRISAKI OF THE BEEHIVE...

"KIRI-SAKI" ...?

YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?

DAD!

HAPPY TO SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN?

Hello!

I SEE YOU TWO HAVE GOTTEN REACQUAINTED!

WELL, WELL!

IT REALLY BRINGS BACK MEMOR-IES!

IT'S THE SAME AS EVER...

THIS PLACE HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL!

SHE TOLD ME NOT TO SAY ANYTHING!

DAD, YOU DIDN'T TELL ME YUI WAS COMING!

YES!

WELL, YUI? ARE YOU GLAD TO BE BACK IN JAPAN?

I'M GLAD YOU FEEL THAT WAY.

LIKE COMING HOME...

THE BOSS IS HERE RIGHT NOW!

WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT, RAKU?

SOME CHINESE MAFIA BOSS... SHOULDN'T YOU BE KEEPING HIM COMPANY?

HUH?

I HEAR YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT GUEST, DAD.

PAT

BLUSH
BLUSH

HERE SHE IS!

WHAAAAAAT?!

ITS LEADERSHIP PASSES DOWN THROUGH HEREDITY.

...HAS A VERY LONG HISTORY.

THE CHAR SIU KAI ORGANIZA-TION THAT I LEAD...

WOW!

IT'S NOT AN EASY JOB, BUT I GET A LOT OF SUPPORT FROM THE PEOPLE AROUND ME.

I JUST HAPPENED TO BE...

...THE ONLY SUCCESSOR IN MY GENERA-TION.

I DIDN'T EVEN REALIZE YOU'D LEFT JAPAN!

I HAD NO IDEA.

THINGS JUST FINALLY SETTLED DOWN A BIT, SO I TOOK A VACATION AND CAME FOR A VISIT.

I'VE BEEN SUPER BUSY SINCE COMING INTO THIS ROLE.

SHE WENT TO ANOTHER SCHOOL AND MOVED OUT WHEN I WAS IN SECOND GRADE, AND THAT WAS THE LAST I SAW OF HER!

WELL, YUI LIVED HERE WITH US WHEN I WAS LITTLE. WE GREW UP TOGETHER!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE CLOSE FRIENDS!

HMM...

KIND OF LIKE TSUGUMI AND ME...

THESE TWO REALLY ARE LIKE BROTHER AND SISTER.

HEY, YOU WERE ALSO CRYING!

YOU WERE BAWLING LIKE A BABY WHEN I LEFT.

WELL...

HE WAS YOUNGER THAN ME, BUT YOU'D NEVER KNOW IT FROM HIS ATTITUDE!

WHAT WAS RAKU LIKE WHEN HE WAS LITTLE?

HEY, YUI!

HUH?

CHITOGE, PLEASE!

BUT HE WAS ALSO SUPER THOUGHTFUL OF OTHER PEOPLE.

I WAS ALWAYS WORRIED HE'D GET SERIOUSLY HURT!

HE WAS WILD AND RECK-LESS...

HE USED TO DRAG ME ALONG ON ALL SORTS OF CRAZY ADVENTURES!

I TOTALLY DON'T REMEM-BER THAT.

HE SAID, "I'LL PROTECT YOU, SIS!"

...HE STOOD UP TO THEM AND DEFENDED ME!

ONCE, WHEN SOME SIXTH GRADERS WERE PICKING ON ME...

IT'S FUN HEARING ABOUT HIS CHILD-HOOD...

SOUNDS LIKE HE HASN'T CHANGED MUCH SINCE THEN.

GOOD OL' RAKU...

I DON'T REMEMBER. IT WAS SO LONG AGO!

THEN WHAT ABOUT...

You don't remember?

IT MAKES ME A LITTLE JEALOUS OF THEIR FRIENDSHIP...

THIS GIRL...

...KNOWS A SIDE OF RAKU I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT!

...OUR FIRST KISS?

THAT'S HARSH! IT WAS A BIG DEAL TO ME!

I KNEW IT! YOU FORGOT THAT TOO?!

F-F-FIRST...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

WHAT?!

WELL, THEY WERE JUST KIDS...

I DON'T REMEMBER THAT AT ALL!

THIS IS A JOKE, RIGHT?

THAT SORT OF THING HAPPENS SOMETIMES BETWEEN LITTLE KIDS...

KOFF

It's no joke!

BECAUSE THAT'S THE WAY YOU ARE, I...

BUT...

HMM?

ooo

HOW LONG ARE YOU STAYING IN JAPAN, YUI?

ER...

ME?

NOTHING MORE?

THEY WERE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, RIGHT?

WAIT...

NOTH-ING'S REALLY CHANGED.

SURE...

WOULD YOU SHOW ME AROUND TOWN?

HEY, RAKKY...?

WE'LL BE TOGETHER EVERY DAY!

The fall term starts tomorrow, right?

I ARRANGED TO GO TO YOUR HIGH SCHOOL WHILE I'M HERE!

BY THE WAY, RAKKY...

WHAT?! YOU DID?!

?!

ACTU-ALLY...

...I HAVEN'T SET A DATE TO GO BACK YET.

I THOUGHT I'D JUST PLAY IT BY EAR.

TEE HEE HEE HEE HEE...

SO YOU'LL BE AN UPPER-CLASSMAN?

WOW...

YOU'RE ACTUALLY TRANS-FERRING TO MY SCHOOL?

STARTING TODAY...

Kanokura

SO...

DIIING DOOONG

PLEASED TO MEET YOU ALL!

...I'LL BE YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER. MY NAME IS YUI KANAKURA!

YAAAAAAAAAAAAAY

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

Huh?

CLAP CLAP

CLAP CLAP CLAP

FWIP

CLAP CLAP

Wow!

CLAP CLAP

HUH?!

WHA...

WHA...

Tee hee! ♡

OUR TEACHER?!

Inter-
esting...
That's
a weird
way to
make
tea...
SHUU

Chapter 119: Teacher

CHATTER

WE'RE SO LUCKY!!

AND SHE'S PRETTY!!

CHATTER

WE'VE HAD ASSISTANT TEACHERS FOREVER!

CHATTER

WHOA! OUR CLASS FINALLY GOT A REAL TEACHER!

CHATTER

CHATTER CHATTER

YES. IT'S THE CHINESE READING.

Wow! China!

DO YOU PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME "YUI"?

WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?

CHATTER

AT HER AGE, SHE COULDN'T BE A STUDENT, BUT...

TEACHER? SO THAT'S WHAT SHE MEANT ABOUT BEING TOGETHER EVERY DAY!

WE'RE ONLY TWO YEARS APART!

HOLD ON A SEC, BIG SIS!

CHAK

HUH?

"BIG SIS"?!

Ugh...

Um...

Huh?

Idiot...

WHAT?!

WE'RE TEACHER AND STUDENT NOW, SO ADDRESS ME PROPERLY!

TSK TSK! RAKU!

WINK!

...ARE OLD FRIENDS?

...AND THE BEAUTIFUL KANAKURA SENSEI...

SO YOU...

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.

EXPLAIN THIS!!!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, ICHIJO?!!

W-W-WAIT, GUYS!

GAH!

I DIDN'T KNOW!! I DIDN'T KNOW!!

YOU'RE ALWAYS MESSING WITH US!!!

OUR HOT TEACHER IS YOUR OLD FRIEND?!

GIMME A BREAK, MAN!!

GAH

GLAAARE

YEAH. NO PROBLEM.

You're 19!

...BUT CAN YOU BE A *TEACHER* AT THAT AGE?!

YOU'RE TWO YEARS OLDER, SO I CAN SEE WHY YOU COULDN'T BE A STUDENT...

BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT!

REMEMBER ME?!

HEY! YUI! YUI!

HUH?

YOU'RE AMAZING, MISS KANA-KURA!!

Students

YOU DID SAY YOU CHANGED SCHOOLS A LOT FOR A GOOD EDUCATION, BUT...

Wow...

I SKIPPED GRADES AS A CHILD...

...GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE FOUR YEARS AGO, AND ACQUIRED MY TEACHING LICENSE.

HUH? YOU KNOW MAIKO, TOO?

HEY! YOU REMEMBER! I'M SO HAPPY!

OH!! SHU?! LONG TIME, NO SEE! YOU'VE GROWN!!

PANT

PANT

PANT

PANT

SIT!

YUIIIII!

AH HA HA!

SHUUU!

TEE HEE HEE!

PHEW! AND THERE'S KIRISAKI FROM YESTERDAY!

WOW! I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M TEACHING SHU'S CLASS!

UH, YEAH... IT'S A PLEASURE.

UM... MASTER AND SERVANT ?

WHAT'S THEIR RELATION-SHIP?

KYAAH! SHU, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!!

KYAH! KYAH!

YUI, YOU SURE ARE PRETTY NOW!

YEAH. FOR EXAMPLE ...

OH? REALLY?

I must have overlooked Shu's name.

LOOKING AT THE CLASS ROSTER, I WAS SURPRISED AT ALL THE PEOPLE I KNOW!

HELLO, MARIKA.

DO YOU REMEMBER ME?

HUH?

YOU KNOW TACHIBANA?

ZAZANG!!!

THAT'S A SURPRISING CONNEC-TION.

(BUT SHE KNEW CHITOGE'S CONNECTION TO THE BEEHIVE, SO MAYBE THAT ISN'T STRANGE.

YOU MUST BE MIS-TAKEN...

UH...HUH? WHO ARE YOU?

I REMEM-BER!

YOU'RE POLICE CHIEF TACHIBANA'S DAUGHTER.

NO, NO!

...?

GLANCE

AND LET'S SEE...

YOU STAYED IN A HOTEL YESTER-DAY, RIGHT?

I DON'T KNOW EITHER.

OH! DIDN'T I TELL YOU?

YES. MY LUGGAGE HASN'T ARRIVED YET.

MISS YUI, WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

SURELY NOT CLOSE TO ICHIJO!

WHAT IS IT, YUI?

...?

OH, NOTHING.

WHILE I'M IN JAPAN, I'M STAYING AT YOUR PLACE!

SMILE

WE'LL HAVE FUN AT SCHOOL AND HOME!

If you oversleep, I'll wake you up!

♡

WHAT?!

BUT I DIDN'T KNOW!!

WHAMM

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU, ICHIJO!!!!

SHE ISN'T A CHILD! AND THIS PLACE IS FULL OF MESSY DUDES!

THINK ABOUT HER AGE!

YUI'S STAYING WITH US?!

NONE-THELESS, IT WAS HER DESIRE.

DAD!!

TMP

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!

TMP

HUH?!

NEXT TO ME?!

SEE TO HER NEEDS.

BY THE WAY, HER ROOM IS NEXT TO YOURS.

YEAH. I'M FAMILIAR WITH THE HOUSE, AND YOU HAVE EMPTY ROOMS!

...

HUH?

MIND WHAT?

Or am I overreacting?

DON'T YOU MIND, YUI?

AREN'T YOU GUYS A LITTLE LAX ABOUT... YOU KNOW...

WELL, I WANTED TO GIVE IT A TRY...

...AND I WANTED TO GO TO SCHOOL WITH YOU.

DIDN'T YOU COME HERE FOR FUN?

BUT WHY...

...DID YOU BECOME OUR TEACHER?

"Tee hee, hee?!

Tee hee hee...

...BUT I HAD TO BE A TEACHER.

IF I HAD COME TO JAPAN SOONER, I COULD HAVE ENTERED AS A STUDENT...

WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL WITH ME?

...

Clothes

Books

RAKU, YOU'VE GROWN.

...BUT NOW I HAVE TO LOOK UP AT YOU.

YOU USED TO BE SO SMALL...

CAN'T YOU *GUESS?*

WHOA

HUH?

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

YOU NEED TO GROW MORE.

...YOU'RE STILL A CHILD INSIDE.

BUT I GUESS ...

YEAH. I'LL BE FINE.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHERE IT IS?

IT WAS A BUSY DAY. I'LL TAKE A BATH NOW.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, RAKU.

UMF...

THUD!

FWIF

!!

HMM?

WHAT AM I DOING?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, YUI?!

BUT WAIT...

OUUUCH!!!! MY FOOT!!

WE WERE JUST KIDS THEN!!

HUH?

BUT I ALWAYS DID *BEFORE.*

NOT IN FRONT OF PEOPLE! WHAT GIVES?!

DON'T UNDRESS HERE!!

WANNA TAKE A BATH TOGETHER LIKE OLD TIMES?

SO?

I'LL WASH YOUR BACK!

I DON'T MIND...

...BUT EVEN YOUR EARS ARE RED! HOW CUTE!

THIS IS EXHAUST-ING...

MY BAD! I'LL HOP RIGHT IN!

TEE HEE HEE!

HURRY UP, WOULD YA?! ARGH!!

OF COURSE NOT! IDIOT!!

...

BLUSH!

SHE NEEDS TO ACT MORE LIKE AN ADULT!

SHE'S THE ONE WHO HASN'T GROWN...

SHEESH ...

...THAT SHE CAN BE A MAFIA BOSS.

IT'S AMAZING...

YEAH. GOOD NIGHT.

GOOD NIGHT, RAKU. SEE YOU TOMORROW!

SIGH

SO MUCH HAPPENED TODAY!

MOSTLY WITH YUI, BUT...

SHOWING UP OUT OF THE BLUE AS A TEACHER AND STAYING HERE IS TOO RECKLESS.

PHEW! I'M SO TIRED!!

FWUMP

SHF

...BUT IT FEELS WEIRD NOW.

SHE ALWAYS DID BEFORE...

IS YUI SLEEPING NEXT DOOR RIGHT NOW?

...SHE WAS THERE, TOO?

...WHEN I MADE THAT PROMISE TEN YEARS AGO...

HRM... COULD IT BE...

WE USED TO DO EVERYTHING TOGETHER...

FWUMP

WHAT WAS THAT SOUND?!

HUH?!

WAP

!

FWUMP

zzz

WHAT?!

...

WAAAAAAAAAH

MM... MM? RAKU...

W-WHAT'RE YOU DOING, YUI?!!

PFFT!!!

AND SHE STILL HAS THE SAME HABIT?!

SHE DID THIS WHEN WE WERE LITTLE.

Huh?

Yui?

ZZZZZ

GASP

AND THE WAY YOU'RE DRESSED ...

IT'S LATE!

WHAT'RE YOU SNEAKING INTO MY BED FOR?!

...BUT I CAN'T SLEEP NEXT TO HER EITHER.

I SHOULDN'T WAKE HER UP...

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

CLINK

WE MAY BE OLD FRIENDS, BUT I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL!!

ARGH... SHE'S TOO UNGUARDED AROUND BOYS MY AGE!!

ZZZZZ

?!

IT'S...

!!

WHAT'S THIS?

HUH ...?

SWIP

IT'S...

...A KEY?!

NO WAY!!

Wow... That Maiko's really some-thing...
Now spin three times and bark!
WOOF!!
WOOF!!
PANT PANT
WHRR WHRR

Chapter 120: Need to Know

IS THIS...

...A KEY?!

COULD IT BE ...?!

IT'S BROKEN AT THE TIP, BUT IT LOOKS ABOUT THE RIGHT SIZE FOR MY PENDANT LOCK...

B-BMP

B-BMP

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?!

CHIRP

CHIRP

ZZZZ

HER TOO?!

YAWN...

CHIRP

CHIRP

ISN'T THIS YOUR ROOM, RAKU?

WHAT'M I DOING HERE?

HUH?

CHIRP

YOU LOOK EXHAUST-ED... DIDN'T YOU SLEEP?

WHY'RE YOU SITTING OVER THERE, RAKU?

WAIT A SEC...

YOU WERE SLEEP-WALKING AND YOU CAME IN HERE!

NO!!

TIME TO OUT-GROW THAT HABIT, MISSY!

We're not kids anymore!

WAIT A MINUTE! DON'T TELL ME YOU CAME IN WHEN I WAS SLEEPING AND...

GASP!

Yikes, Raku! I never took you for the type...

OKAY, BUT WHY AM I IN YOUR ROOM?

OH?

?

I HAD KIND OF A ROUGH NIGHT...

WELL ...

HUH?

WHAT'S WITH THAT KEY YOU WEAR AROUND YOUR NECK?

MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO ASK YOU ABOUT.

SHEESH ...

KA

BLING

AND DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT MAKING A PROMISE TO EACH OTHER?

I CAN'T REMEMBER...

...BUT DID YOU AND I EVER GO ON A TRIP TOGETHER FOR ABOUT A MONTH, TEN YEARS AGO?

DOES ANY OF THAT RING A BELL?

I REALLY NEED TO KNOW.

WAIT... DO YOU MEAN ...?

THE OTH-ERS?

MMM...

WAIT. ALL IN GOOD TIME...

JOLT

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?

YOU'VE HELD ON TO IT ALL THIS TIME!

THE LOCK!

?!

WHEN THE WIND IS IN THE EAST

'TIS NEITHER GOOD FOR MAN NOR BEAST WHEN THE WIND IS IN THE NORTH

THE SKILLFUL FISHER GOES NOT FORTH

THEN 'TIS AT THE VERY BEST

English

DOOONG

DIING

TAK

TAK

OOOH!!

I'M SO GLAD WE'RE IN HER CLASS!

PLUS SHE'S GORGEOUS!

WHISPER

SHE'S YOUNG, BUT SHE GIVES AWESOME LESSONS. SHE'S AMAZING!

WOW, MISS KANAKURA IS SO COOL!

WHISPER

WHISPER

HOW'M I SUPPOSED TO CONCEN-TRATE NOW?!

YEESH! I WISH YUI HADN'T PUT ALL THOSE IDEAS IN MY HEAD!

AT HOME SHE'S ALL...

Yui at home

ZZZZZ

SHE'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME.

PLUS...

IF I CALL YOUR NAME, COME SEE ME AFTER CLASS!

AND...

HUH?

OF COURSE! ANY TIME!

ME TOO!

MISS KANAKURA! CAN I COME SEE YOU FOR EXTRA HELP LATER?

GR

IN

KA

KLINK

WHAT?!

YOU WERE THERE TEN YEARS AGO TOO, MISS KANAKURA?

AND YOU HAVE A KEY?!

OF COURSE.

YOU REMEMBER US ALL?

...TO SEE ALL OF YOU AGAIN!

I WAS JUST AS SURPRISED YESTERDAY...

BELIEVE ME...

I REMEMBER THE REST OF YOU TOO.

YOU'VE REALLY GROWN, CHITOGE!

...BUT IT SEEMED LIKE YOU DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME, SO...

THE OTHER DAY, I REMEMBERED YOU AS SOON AS I HEARD YOUR NAME...

YOU KNOW TSUGUMI TOO?!

...AND TSUGUMI TOO.

...AND MARIKA...

KOSAKI WAS THERE...

NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, BLACK TIGER!

RIGHT NOW, I'M JUST A TEACHER.

The Char Siu are allies with the Beehive!

YOU DID SEEM FAMILIAR TO ME... TO THINK YOU'RE THE BOSS OF THE CHAR SIU KAI SYNDICATE!

THE MISTRESS FILLED ME IN.

What are you staring at?!

EX-CUSE ME?!

YES... YOU'VE REALLY GROWN UP...

IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

YOU'VE ALL REALLY GROWN UP!

MISS KANA-KURA...

DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT A PROMISE?

HMM?

WHAT A COINCIDENCE!

NONE OF YOU REMEMBERED EACH OTHER, BUT WE'RE ALL HERE!

DOESN'T IT SEEM LIKE DESTINY OR SOMETHING?

APPARENTLY, ALL OF US MADE SOME KIND OF PROMISE WITH ICHIJO TEN YEARS AGO.

BUT NONE OF US CAN REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS...

DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?

A PROMISE...

ULP...

THUD!

SORRY. NO CLUE.

WHAT?! YOU DON'T REMEMBER?!

I WAS SURE YOU'D GIVE US SOME KIND OF HINT...

SORRY, RAKU! I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT A KEY OR A PROMISE...

GEEZ. WHAT A LETDOWN!

ooo

WELL, THAT'S FOUR KEYS NOW!

WONDER IF THERE'S STILL MORE OUT THERE!

I'M NOT SURE... BUT I THINK THAT'S THE LAST ONE.

?

HOW COME?

REMEMBER THE PICTURE BOOK WE FOUND AT ONODERA'S PLACE?

I'M PRETTY SURE IT'S CONNECTED TO THE PROMISE.

ANYWAY, IN THE STORY, THERE ARE FOUR KEYS.

SO I FIGURE...

OH, I SEE.

ANYWAY, I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE WE MET SENSEI BEFORE! I TOTALLY DON'T REMEMBER...

ME NEITH-ER...

WELL, THAT'S NOT SURPRISING. I DIDN'T SPEND AS MUCH TIME WITH YOU AS RAKU DID.

WELL, I GUESS YOU DON'T REMEMBER IT NOW...

...BUT I CAN TELL YOU WHAT I DO REMEMBER.

I DON'T REMEMBER A PROMISE...

YES! TELL US!

...BUT CHITOGE AND KOSAKI, YOU TWO WERE REALLY CLOSE.

YOU DID EVERYTHING TOGETHER. IT WAS REALLY SWEET.

IT'S BEEN SO LONG...

THAT'S WEIRD.

I WAS FRIENDS WITH HER?

Hmph

I HAVE NO SUCH RECOLLEC-TION.

...

WE DID?

...BUT YOU ALSO PLAYED WITH CHITOGE AND KOSAKI SOMETIMES.

AND MARIKA, YOU WERE SICKLY, SO YOU COULDN'T GO OUTSIDE MUCH...

YAY!

WE WERE SO CLOSE BACK THEN.

WELL, THAT'S TOO BAD.

NOT AT ALL.

SO SORRY.

I SPENT MORE TIME WITH YOU THAN ANY OF THE OTHERS...

YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER ME, MARIKA?

WE ALL BATHED TOGETHER, EVEN!

WE...

WE...

TRMBL TRMBL

GRWL

OH! DID THAT JOG YOUR MEMORY?

SENSEI!! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TELL THE STORY ABOUT...

...BATHED TOGETHER ?!

WE ALL...

MENTAL IMAGE

AIEEEE!!

BOB BOB

AND THEN RAKU ...

?

SUDDENLY IT WAS JUST HER BOTTOM, BOBBING IN THE WATER...

BUT MARIKA GOT OVERHEATED AND PASSED OUT...

THAT'S RIGHT.

WE BATHED TOGETH-ER...

I BATHED... WITH ICHIJO...

I TOOK A BATH... WITH BEAN SPROUT ...

THE HECK I DO!!

SO YOU DO REMEMBER?

WOULDJA SHUT YER TRAP, YA BONEHEAD!

FOR THE LOVE OF...

EEEEEEK!!

SO YOU DON'T REMEMBER THE TIME I FOUND THE LOVE LETTER YOU WROTE?

REALLY? GEE, THAT'S TOO BAD.

NO. ABSO-LUTELY NOT!

TACHIBANA... DO YOU REMEMBER YUI?

I REMEMBER HOW MUCH I COULDN'T STAND YOU!

YES. IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO ME NOW, YUI.

OUCH! BUT I WAS CRAZY ABOUT YOU!

WHAT HAP-PENED BETWEEN THESE TWO?!

WHAT ARE YA, SOME KINDA FLIPPIN' ELEPHANT?!

Nobody was s'posed to see that!

IT WAS SO BEAUTI-FULLY WRITTEN ...

"UNDER THE STARRY SKY, MY DARLING RAKU..."

OH, POO! I REMEMBER YA. SATISFIED?

I THOUGHT WE WERE FINALLY GOING TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY!

I GUESS WE STILL DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE PROMISE.

ANYWAY ...

IT WAS REALLY COMFY IN YOUR FUTON LAST NIGHT.

MAYBE I'LL COME SLEEP THERE AGAIN TONIGHT!

TEE HEE♡

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT PULLING ANY FUNNY BUSI-NESS!

BY THE WAY, MISS KANAKURA, YOU'RE STAYING AT RAKU'S HOUSE, AREN'T YOU?

OH RAKU, YOU'RE SUCH A GENTLE-MAN!

DON'T BE SILLY!

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, BEAN SPROUT?!

WHAT?

WHAT DID I MISS?

I DISLIKE THIS SIDE OF YOU, RAKU DEAREST.

RAKU!!

NO! I CAN EXPLAIN!

SO YOUR FUTON... WAS COMFY ...

POW

KRUNCH

BOFF

KRAK

THAT WAS SO FUN!

THEY SURE HAVE GROWN UP TO BE LOVELY GIRLS. AND YOU'RE SO POPULAR, RAKU!

POPULAR? PLEASE!

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT.

OH, WELL, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, BIG SIS!

I REALLY THOUGHT YOU REMEMBERED SOMETHING, YUI.

STILL, I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS HASN'T OPENED UP ANY NEW ANSWERS.

DO YOU REALLY NOT REMEMBER?

RAKU...

HUH?

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?

WHEN YOU SAID "ALL IN GOOD TIME" THIS MORNING...

BY THE WAY...

OH, THAT?

THE PROMISE YOU MADE WITH ME.

APPARENTLY A BIT MORE THAN YOU DO.

YOU DO REMEMBER SOMETHING, YUI?!

...

WHA ...?!

WHAT?!

BUT I'M NOT TELLING.

WAIT... MORE IMPORTANTLY... WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ?!

DON'T TELL ME... THE GIRL I MADE THE PROMISE WITH WAS...

WHY DID YOU TELL EVERYONE YOU DIDN'T?!

TEE HEE HEE... YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW, DON'T YOU?

WELL...

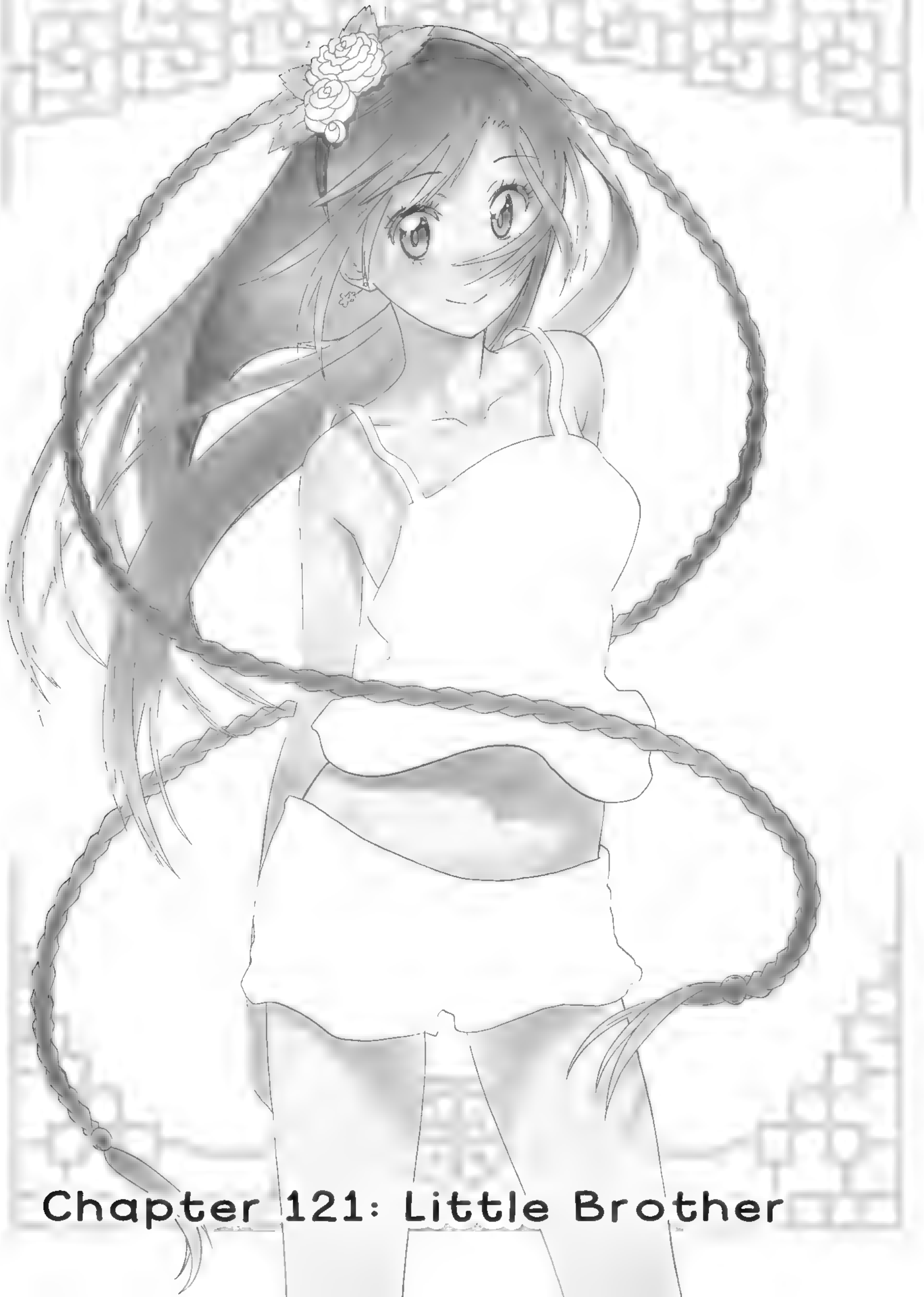
...ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE YOUR HEART TO THAT PERSON?

WHEN YOU FIND OUT WHO YOU MADE THE PROMISE WITH...

I...

...

Yer dead meat!!
Shut yer mouth!!
Oh, the memo-ries!
There was that one time... and that other time...
Oh, I have lots of memories of Marika!
Chill!



Chapter 121: Little Brother

NISEKOI
False Love

...ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE YOUR HEART TO THAT PERSON?

WHEN YOU FIND OUT WHO YOU MADE THE PROMISE WITH...

HUH?

...

THE PAST IS THE PAST...

RIGHT, RAKKY?

I GUESS I JUST REALLY WANT TO KNOW.

WELL...NOT NECESSARILY...

...

I GET WHAT YOU MEAN...

SO FOR NOW, I'M NOT TELLING.

...IS THE PERSON YOU CARE ABOUT NOW, RIGHT?

WHAT REALLY MATTERS...

I'LL MAKE YOU A DEAL.

...I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW.

...THAT'S WHEN...

WHEN YOU DECIDE WHO YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT MOST...

CARE ABOUT...

...MOST?

...

THAT PENDANT...

...WON'T OPEN.

OF COURSE...

I DON'T WANT TO BE TOO COLD-HEARTED.

SO I'LL TELL YOU JUST ONE LITTLE THING.

WHSH

SHOOP

AT LEAST...

...NOT AS IT STANDS.

HUH?

WHAAAAT?!

WAIT!! WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!

TEE HEE! LATER!

HEY!!

WHY'S SHE BEING SO CRUEL?! WHY NOT JUST TELL ME?

I'M MORE CONFUSED THAN EVER!!

IT WON'T OPEN AS IT STANDS?

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?!

JING

NO, YUI...

NO MATTER WHO I MADE THE PROMISE WITH, THE PERSON I CARE ABOUT NOW IS...

WHEN YOU FIND OUT WHO YOU MADE THE PROMISE WITH...

...ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE YOUR HEART TO THAT PERSON?

FWUMP

SHOOO

BUT AS FAR AS SHE KNOWS, I'M DATING CHITOGE!

SHE TOLD ME TO MAKE UP MY MIND WHO I CARE ABOUT NOW...

HUH?

NOT AGAIN !!

CHIRP CHIRP

ZZZZZ

YOU SHOULD'VE JUST JOINED ME!

SHEESH! I HAD TO SLEEP ON THROW PILLOWS AGAIN LAST NIGHT!

YOU SHOULD SLEEP IN YOUR OWN FUTON! WHAT GIVES?!

HOW AM I SUP-POSED TO GET ANY SLEEP ?!

GET SERIOUS !!

I CAN'T HELP IT! WHEN I WAKE UP, I'M HERE!

DOESN'T SHE GET IT?!

CRIPES!

SHAH!

KSHING!

CAN I CARRY YOUR BAG?

GOOD MORN-ING!

OOH! MISS KANAKURA IS HERE!!

GOOD MORNING, CLASS! YOU'RE ALL LOOKING WELL!

CHATTER

SHE'S ALWAYS HAD PEOPLE IDOLIZE HER...

But this is kind of extreme.

CHATTER

THIS "BIG SIS" OF YOURS SURE HAS A LOT OF FANS AFTER JUST A WEEK HERE!

CHATTER

THAT'S YUI FOR YOU!

LIVING UNDER THE SAME ROOF WITH SUCH A COOL TEACHER!!

I NEVER ASKED FOR THIS!

ICHIJO, YOU LUCKY DUCK!

THE OTHER TEACHERS ADORE HER TOO.

IT'S NOT JUST OUR CLASS... THE WHOLE SCHOOL LOVES HER!

WOW!

D-DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!!

HUH?!

YOU DEVIL, YOU!

AND YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY RELATED, RIGHT?

YOU'RE WITH HER DAY IN AND DAY OUT?! MAN, I'M JEALOUS!

Oh? Is that really how it works?

I TOTALLY DON'T EVEN THINK OF HER THAT WAY!

WE MAY NOT BE BLOOD RELATED, BUT WE GREW UP TOGETHER LIKE SIBLINGS!

RAAAAA!!

YEAH. HERE IT IS.

I FORGOT TO GET MY LUNCH FROM YOU!

WHAT, YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?

HUH?

IS THAT TRUE?

How embar-rassing!

OH, YOU!

OH!

D

YOU'VE GOT TOTAL BEDHEAD!

AUGH!

I TOLD YA! HANDS OFF AT SCHOOL!

ISN'T IT INAPPROPRIATE FOR A TEACHER TO INTERACT THAT WAY WITH HER STUDENT?!

EXCUSE ME, TEACHER...

OH! YOU'RE RIGHT!

Beg pardon!

AAAAAAGH!!

...OFF!

?!

TEACHER MODE...

?

HEY, HAVE YOU HEARD?

GUESS WHAT COLLEGE MISS KANAKURA GRADUATED FROM?!

YAP

YAP

AIN'T'CHA GOT AN OUNCE OF COMMON DECENCY ?!

MAAAGH!!

NOW, RAKKY, HOLD STILL, SWEETIE!

Don't!

IF SHE JUST WANTED TO TEACH, THERE ARE PLENTY OF SCHOOLS SHE COULD'VE CHOSEN...

ACTUALLY, THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION.

Maybe because she's from here?

WONDER WHY SHE'S TEACHING AT AN ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL LIKE OURS?

-She's- cool like that...

PROBABLY SOME SUPER HIGH-LEVEL UNIVERSITY OVERSEAS...

BUT WHY?

I ARRANGED TO GO TO YOUR HIGH SCHOOL WHILE I'M HERE!

Wait for me. I just wanna change!

Okay.

CAN I JOIN YOU?

YOU'RE GOING GROCERY SHOPPING NOW, RIGHT RAKU?

WELL, SURE.

TEACHING IS SO FUN!

MAN, ANOTHER GREAT DAY!

THAT'S THE GIRL WHO SHOWED UP WITH YUI.

I didn't realize she was still around!

HEY...

HUH?

SHE'S IGNOR-ING ME?

HMM.

...

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE SAFE UP THERE?

UM... HELLO!

HUH?

...WARN YOU.

I SHOULD...

UM...

WHAT'S YOUR RELATION-SHIP WITH YUI?

MY NAME IS NIGHT.

I DON'T EXACTLY LOOK MY AGE.

YEESH! TOUGH WORDS FROM SUCH A LITTLE PIPSQUEAK!

Scary!

TMP

?!

WHAAAT?!

IF YOU EVER HURT MY MISTRESS, YOU'RE DEAD MEAT, YOU LITTLE PUNK!

GLARE

EEK !!

For real?!

So watch your mouth.

I COULD REDUCE YOU TO HAMBURGER IN THREE SECONDS.

I'M THE MISTRESS'S PROTECTOR.

IS SHE THAT AMAZING?

YOU MEAN YUI?

IN THE CHAR SIU GROUP, BLOODLINE MATTERS MORE THAN ANYTHING.

...

SHE HAS INCREDIBLE ABILITIES. SHE'S A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH.

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE HER.

SHE'S TERRIFYINGLY POWERFUL.

SHE MADE THE CHAR SIU WHAT IT IS TODAY.

WHEN SHE WAS FIRST CHOSEN AS OUR LEADER, NOBODY EXPECTED MUCH OF HER.

BUT IN JUST TWO YEARS, SHE TOOK A RAG-TAG GROUP AND MADE IT STRONG AND COHESIVE.

REALLY? I NEVER WOULD'VE GUESSED...

YUI WAS ALWAYS SORT OF A CRYBABY...

THE CHAR SIU'S STABILITY DEPENDS ON HER.

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THE MISTRESS DOING ANY SUCH THING!

DON'T BE ABSURD.

I MEAN, LIKE SLEEPWALKING AND CRAWLING INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S FUTONS...

WELL, YEAH... BUT SHE STILL HAS SOME KIND OF CHILDISH HABITS, RIGHT?

AH...

WAIT...

HUH? YOU HAVEN'T?

HASN'T SHE BEEN DOING IT HER WHOLE LIFE?

WHAT'S UP, RAKU?

HMM?

HEY, DAD! PERFECT TIMING!

CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

THE THING IS, RAKU...

DID SHE SAY?

WHY DOES YUI WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL WITH ME?

OH! NOBODY TOLD YOU?

YOU'RE THE ONLY FAMILY SHE'S GOT LEFT.

WAIT... U

REALLY ?!

I had no idea!

YUI DOESN'T HAVE ANY LIVING FAMILY. SHE'S ALONE IN THE WORLD.

HUH?

EVEN IF YOU AREN'T BLOOD RELATED, TO YUI, YOU'RE THE ONLY FAMILY SHE'S GOT.

HER PARENTS DIED OF ILLNESS SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

SHE HAS NO SIBLINGS AND NO OTHER RELATIVES.

...IT REALLY MADE HER DAY.

...WHEN YOU CALLED HER "BIG SIS" AFTER ALL THESE YEARS...

SHE TOLD ME...

Something about reunifying the Char Sui group...

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ALL THE TROUBLE SHE WENT THROUGH TO COME SEE YOU.

SHE ACTS TOUGH, BUT SHE'S ACTUALLY VERY LONELY.

WOW, YOU'VE REALLY GROWN!

LONG TIME NO SEE!

RAKKY?

FUD!!

SHE ACTS SO CHEERFUL, BUT SHE MUST REALLY BE LONELY INSIDE.

I HAD NO IDEA YUI LOST HER WHOLE FAMILY.

RAK-

-KY...

MUMBLE

ZZZZZ

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THE MISTRESS DOING ANY SUCH THING!

WHAT?!

YOU'RE MY SPECIAL SISTER!!

I TOLD YA, I'LL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU, BIG SIS!

THEY COULD HAVE REALLY HURT YOU!!

THOSE GUYS WERE SIXTH GRADERS!

RAKKY! THAT WAS CRAZY!

OH, RAKKY...

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH YOU?

...I SHOULD KEEP THAT PROMISE.

WELL, AS HER BROTHER ...

SHEESH.

...

BLINK

TWEET

TWEET

ZZZZZ

HUH?

I'M IN YOUR ROOM AGAIN, RAKKY?

UHN...

ZZZZ

RAKKY...

...AND NOT AS A BROTHER.

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU...

How old is she, anyway?
Hmph

Chapter 122: Conference

NISEKOI
False Love

MY NAME IS NINJIRO FUKUDA.

FWOOO

KCHIK

I'M 31. SINGLE.

I'M JUST YOUR AVERAGE, RUN-OF-THE-MILL HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER...

NOT THAT IT MATTERS IF YOU FORGET.

I'M THE ASSISTANT HOMEROOM TEACHER OF THE SECOND YEAR'S CLASS C AT BONYARI HIGH SCHOOL.

OH! MR. FUKUDA!

SPECIFIC-ALLY...

I'M THE LATTER TYPE. AND I'VE ORGANIZED TODAY'S TASK BY THAT PRINCIPLE TOO.

THE TYPE WHO EATS THE STUFF THEY DON'T LIKE FIRST, AND THE TYPE WHO EATS IT LAST.

THERE'RE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD.

...COUNSEL-ING THE STUDENTS ABOUT THEIR FUTURE PLANS!

THANKS FOR HELPING OUT TODAY...

A CAREER IN TRANSLATION DOESN'T NECES-SARILY REQUIRE ANY SPECIFIC CERTIFICATIONS, BUT ACCORDING TO MY RESEARCH, A BACKGROUND IN A TECHNICAL FIELD CAN BE ADVANTAGEOUS IN LATER PURSUING A FREELANCE CAREER.

I WILL HAVE TO ALLOCATE TIME TO WORK PART-TIME AND SAVE MONEY TO STUDY ABROAD FOR SEVERAL YEARS IN AN ANGLOPHONE COUNTRY...

...BUT I CONSIDER MYSELF CAPABLE OF SHOULDERING THAT RESPONSIBILITY WITHOUT IT HAVING A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON MY ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE. ULTIMATELY, I'D ALSO LIKE TO TRANSLATE FROM JAPANESE INTO ENGLISH.

FROM THAT PERSPEC-TIVE...

IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A CAREER TRANSLATING LITERARY WORKS FROM ENGLISH INTO JAPANESE, MY TOP SCHOOL IS KICHIRI UNIVERSITY, WHERE A PROFESSOR I DEEPLY ADMIRE TEACHES A SEMINAR IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIVISION OF THE FOREIGN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT.

2004年度
2005年

I'D APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK.

BUT FUNDAMENTALLY, THEY TRUST ME TO MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS ABOUT MY FUTURE.

I'M SORRY MY PARENTS' SCHEDULES DIDN'T PERMIT THEM TO BE HERE TODAY...

We'll do what we can to sup-iport you!

IT'S ALSO WELL WITHIN REACH, GIVEN YOUR EXCELLENT GRADES, MIYAMOTO.

I THINK IT'S A VERY WELL-REASONED AND PRACTICAL PLAN.

I GOT NOTHIN'.

SHE'S GORGEOUS.

MISS KYOKO, HER PREDECESSOR, WAS GREAT TOO. BUT THIS GIRL'S REALLY SOMETHING ELSE.

THAT'S YUI KANAKURA.

SHE'S THE NEW CLASS C HOMEROOM TEACHER.

WANT ME TO MASSAGE YOUR SHOULDERS?

AREN'T YOU TIRED?

GEE, THESE COUNSELING SESSIONS ARE TOUGH!

I'M QUITE STRONG, ACTUALLY.

I'M FINE.

Aah...

SINCE MISS KANAKURA IS NEW HERE...

...I WAS ASKED TO ASSIST IN COUNSELING THE STUDENTS.

Thank you!

NOW WE'RE GETTING TO THE HARD PART.

BUT I DIGRESS.

SO...

ABOUT YOUR FUTURE PLANS...

Counseling Office

THIS IS WHERE IT GETS TRICKY.

THE REST ARE ALL PROBLEM CASES, EITHER BECAUSE OF WHO THEY ARE OR WHO THEIR FAMILIES ARE.

MIYAMOTO (PROBABLY A BABE WHEN SHE TAKES OFF THOSE GLASSES) IS THE LAST OF THE STUDENTS I DIDN'T PUT OFF.

LIKE I SAID, I'M THE TYPE WHO PUTS OFF STUFF THAT I'M DREADING.

...I PLAN TO MARRY HIM AND BECOME HIS DEVOTED WIFE!

RIGHT!

WHEN MY DARLING RAKU TURNS 18 AND GRADU-ATES...

UM, THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE...

YES... BUT YOUR DAUGHTER MIGHT HAVE DIFFICULTY GRADUATING WITH HER CURRENT GRADES...

IT'S ALL SETTLED.

HIS FATHER AND I HAVE ALREADY COME TO AN AGREEMENT.

WHAT A SCARY-LOOKIN' GUY.

GOT IT.

I'D HATE TO HAVE TO THROW CUFFS ON YOU.

JUST DON'T PULL ANY FUNNY BUSINESS WHILE YOU'RE HERE.

HUH?! WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?!

THANK YOU, SIR. SO DO YOU!

YOU LOOK WELL.

IN ANY CASE, YUI, IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?

...MY DAUGHTER AND HER CHOSEN PARTNER?!

ARE YOU DENI- ...

EXCUSE ME?

GRRRRR

NOT AT ALL, SIR!!

NOW, IF YOU HAD SOME KIND OF HIGH-DEMAND VOCA-TIONAL TRAINING ...

YOU MIGHT GET ALONG GREAT NOW, BUT WHO KNOWS WHAT'LL HAPPEN DOWN THE ROAD...

BUT YOU KNOW, MARRIAGE IS A REALLY BIG LEAP.

I WAS BORN TO BE WITH MY DEAREST RAKU!

OF COURSE.

YOU'RE CERTAINLY DEVOTED!

IN ANY CASE, MARIKA, I SEE YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!

SHOOP!

I'LL COME OVER EVERY DAY AND VISIT!

WELL, THAT SOUNDS FUN!

AW, COME ON!

UM... BACK TO YOUR FUTURE PLANS...

I WON'T ALLOW ANYONE TO TRESPASS IN OUR SACRED LOVE SANCTU-ARY!

O-OH NO YOU WON'T!!

DON'T YOU DARE DISTURB OUR HOLY UNION!

...ON WHATEVER MISTRESS CHITOGE KIRISAKI DECIDES.

MY PLANS FOR THE FUTURE ARE TO BE CONTINGENT...

ER, YES...

SPOKEN LIKE A PROPER BODYGUARD.

WELL SAID, SEISHIRO.

MY MISSION IS TO ACCOMPANY AND PROTECT MY MISTRESS ON WHATEVER PATH SHE CHOOSES.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, CLAUDE!

WELL, ACTUALLY... THIS... THAT... THEN THIS AND THAT...

I MUST BE SEEING THINGS. YOUR TEACHER BEARS AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE TO THE HEAD OF THE CHAR SUI GROUP...

BY THE WAY, SEI-SHIRO ...

TREMBLE TREMBLE TREMBLE TREMBLE

CHAR SUI ...?

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP SCHOOLS, TSUGUMI?

WITH YOUR GRADES, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO GO ANYWHERE YOU LIKE...

ARE YOU DEAF, YOU STUPID MAGGOT?!

WHERE THE MISTRESS GOES, WE FOLLOW!

TWI

TCH

MAYBE EVEN TO RAKU ICHIJO, THE BOY SHE'S DATING NOW?

...SO DOWN THE ROAD, SHE'LL PROBABLY GET MARRIED, RIGHT?

OF COURSE, CHITOGE KIRISAKI IS A GIRL...

HE HAS A POINT. IF THEIR RELATIONSHIP STAYS STRONG...

...THE MISTRESS MIGHT MARRY INTO THE SHUEI-GUMI.

I-I'M SORRY!! I TAKE IT BACK!!

KCHA K

HOW DARE YOU WASTE MY TIME WITH YOUR RIDICULOUS WHAT-IFS?!

OH...

BLOOP BLOOP

HONEY'S AWAY TONIGHT. IT'S JUST YOU AND ME...

YO, TSU-GUMI.

SOMEONE MIGHT SEE US!

NO!

MY LOYALTY TO MY MISTRESS SUPERSEDES MY AFFILIATION WITH THE BEEHIVE!

NO!

SHAKA SHAKA

BLOOP BLOOP

IF THAT HAPPENS, I'LL BECOME THE LOWEST-RANKING MEMBER OF THE SHUEI-GUMI...

SHOOP!!

AUGH!!

BUT WE HAVEN'T TALKED ABOUT YOUR FUTURE YET!!

EX-CUSE ME.

ALWAYS A GOOD URGE. GO RIGHT AHEAD.

I HAVE A SUDDEN URGE TO EXERCISE VIGOROUSLY.

I'M GOING OUT TO RUN 200 LAPS AROUND THE SCHOOLYARD.

MASTER CLAUDE ...

...WHAT I WANT TO DO YET.

UM...

I DON'T EXACTLY KNOW...

If I were in college, I'd totally hit on her!

GEE, ONODERA SURE IS CUTE!

I SEE.

I GUESS I'LL GO TO A LOCAL COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL...

WHAP!!

IT'S ALL SETTLED!!

YOU'RE GOING TO WORK!!

MOM...

I SEE. YOU HAVE A FAMILY BUSINESS.

YOU CAN WORK FOR ME.

YOU'RE A TERRIBLE COOK, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT TASTES GOOD AND HOW TO MAKE FOOD LOOK GORGEOUS.

THERE'S NO POINT IN GOING TO COLLEGE IF YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A GOAL.

ER...

THIS ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE A MEETING ABOUT THE FUTURE OF YOUR BUSINESS ...

Heh heh heh...

HARU'S GOT A REAL FLAIR AND PASSION FOR JAPANESE SWEETS.

IF KOSAKI AND HARU WORK TOGETHER, BEFORE LONG THE SHOP WILL GROW INTO A MAJOR CHAIN!

MOM !!!

Y'KNOW, TO LEARN HOW TO WRAP MEN AROUND HER LITTLE FINGER?

HEY, TEACHER... MAYBE SHE COULD GO TO SOME KIND OF FINISHING SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

Huh?

OH, AND ALSO...

IF WE CAN REEL IN THAT ICHIJO KID, WE'LL BE INVINCIBLE!

...FUTURE?

MY...

THIS ONE'S A HANDFUL TOO.

BUT THAT'S OKAY. AT LEAST SHE'S CUTE.

OH...

Good question.

I'VE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT.

UM, THAT'S NOT WHAT WE MEANT...

TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD?

SOME-THING I'D LIKE TO DO?

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO DO IN LIFE?

DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS FOR HER, SIR?

KIRISAKI HAS GREAT GRADES, SO I'M SURE SHE CAN GET INTO ANY COLLEGE SHE LIKES.

Hmm...

UM, NEVER MIND.

I KNOW! A WALKING TOUR OF THE RAMEN SHOPS OF JAPAN!

I WANT HER TO TAKE HER TIME FINDING HER PATH.

LESS BLOODY ...?

YES... I'D LIKE CHITOGE TO BE able TO PURSUE A LESS BLOODY LINE OF WORK.

SHE'S THE PRESIDENT AND CEO OF FLOWER CO., THE MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION.

The CEO?!

HOLY SMOKES, THAT'S A SUPER FAMOUS COMPANY!!

I'M SURE HER MOTHER WOULD LIKE THAT.

...MAYBE SHE COULD HELP OUT WITH HER MOTHER'S BUSINESS.

BUT WHEN THE TIME COMES...

AND WHAT DOES HER MOTHER DO?

HER MOTHER'S BUSINESS?

MOM'S BUSI-NESS? THAT'S A GREAT IDEA!

SHE'S EATING IT UP.

BUT SHE'S STILL CUTE.

OH, DADDY! STOP!

OR MAYBE A FAMOUS SINGER?

THEN AGAIN, MAYBE CHITOGE'S BETTER SUITED TO BE A STAR IN HOLLYWOOD!

BLUSH !!

READY TO CROSS THAT FINISH LINE WITH RAKU?

HOW ABOUT IT?

OF COURSE, MARRIAGE IS ALWAYS AN OPTION FOR A GIRL.

ICHIJO AGAIN, HUH?

SHEESH.

HA HA HA!

JUST KIDDING, SWEETIE.

Don't be ridiculous!!

DADDY!!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

I WANT TO GO TO A STRONG SCHOOL NOT TOO FAR AWAY.

UM...

AS FAR AS COLLEGE GOES...

WELL, WELL. IF IT ISN'T ROMEO HIMSELF.

WHY THE HECK IS THIS LITTLE STINKER SO POPULAR?!

I SEE.

THEN I'LL TAKE THE NATIONAL EXAM TO BECOME A PUBLIC OFFICIAL.

SPECIFICALLY, I'M SHOOTING FOR BON COLLEGE OR SAPARI UNIVERSITY.

I WANT RAKU TO BE FREE TO PURSUE WHATEVER HE WANTS.

THEN AGAIN, I KNOW THE YOUNGER RIFFRAFFS IN OUR ORGANIZATION WANT HIM AS OUR NEXT LEADER...

I HAVE NO OBJEC-TIONS.

SIR? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR SON'S PLANS?

DON'T WORRY, ICHIJO. I'M SURE YOU'LL DO Wwell ON YOUR EXAM!

I'm not going to lead the syndicate!!

FORGET IT!

COURSE, IF HE FAILS HIS EXAM, AT LEAST HE HAS SOMETHING TO FALL BACK ON!

SYNDI-CATE?!

THANK GOD THAT WAS THE LAST SESSION. MADE IT THROUGH!!

I HEARD THIS KID'S FAMILY WAS YAKUZA, BUT LUCKILY THEY DON'T SEEM SUPER DANGEROUS. THAT'S A RELIEF.

IF WORSE COMES TO WORST, AND YOU FAIL YOUR EXAM...

WELL...

ISN'T THAT A GOOD OPTION?

...WE COULD GET MARRIED AND I COULD SUPPORT YOU.

TEE

HEE

TEE HEE HEE!

JUST KIDDING!

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KID-DING!!

TREMBLE TREMBLE

WELL, YOU AREN'T BLOOD RELATED, SON. IT'S A POSSIBILITY, ACTUALLY...

WHY THE CRAZY TALK, SIS?!

THOSE WHO'RE POPULAR WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX, AND THOSE WHO AREN'T.

LOOK, JUST LEAVE ME ALONE, WOULD-JA?

WHICH TYPE AM I, YOU ASK?

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD.

FWOOO

FWOOO

FINALLY, A BREAK FROM THE PROBLEM CASES...

Thank you, Sensei!

THANK GOD THE COUNSELING SESSIONS ARE ALL THROUGH. WHAT A PAIN!!

DOO-DEE-DOO

DEE-DOO

HUH?

SHO

OOP!

LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER !!

YOUR SESSION'S OVER?

EEK! RAKU DEAREST !!

WHAT?! WHO'RE YOU CALLING A CONCUBINE, YOU SCUMBAG!!

NO!! I... SHE...

HEY, YOU LITTLE PUNK?! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?! WHO'S THIS HUSSY?! A CONCUBINE?!

MARIKA TACHI-BANA, YOU'RE ASKING FOR IT, YOU LITTLE...

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, MARIKA?! GET AWAY FROM HIM!!

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, DAD! DON'T JUST STAND THERE... DO SOME-THING!

Ooooh, Raku Dear-est....

SHEESH. YOU'RE A REAL HANDFUL, YOU KNOW THAT?

WOW, SON. YOU'RE CERTAINLY POPULAR.

WHAT? HEY! QUIT PUSHING ME, RURI!!

GO ON, GET IN THERE!

KOSAKI! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?! I HOPE YOU'RE NOT LETTING ICHIJO GET AWAY FROM YOU!!

IT'S FALL, ALL RIGHT.

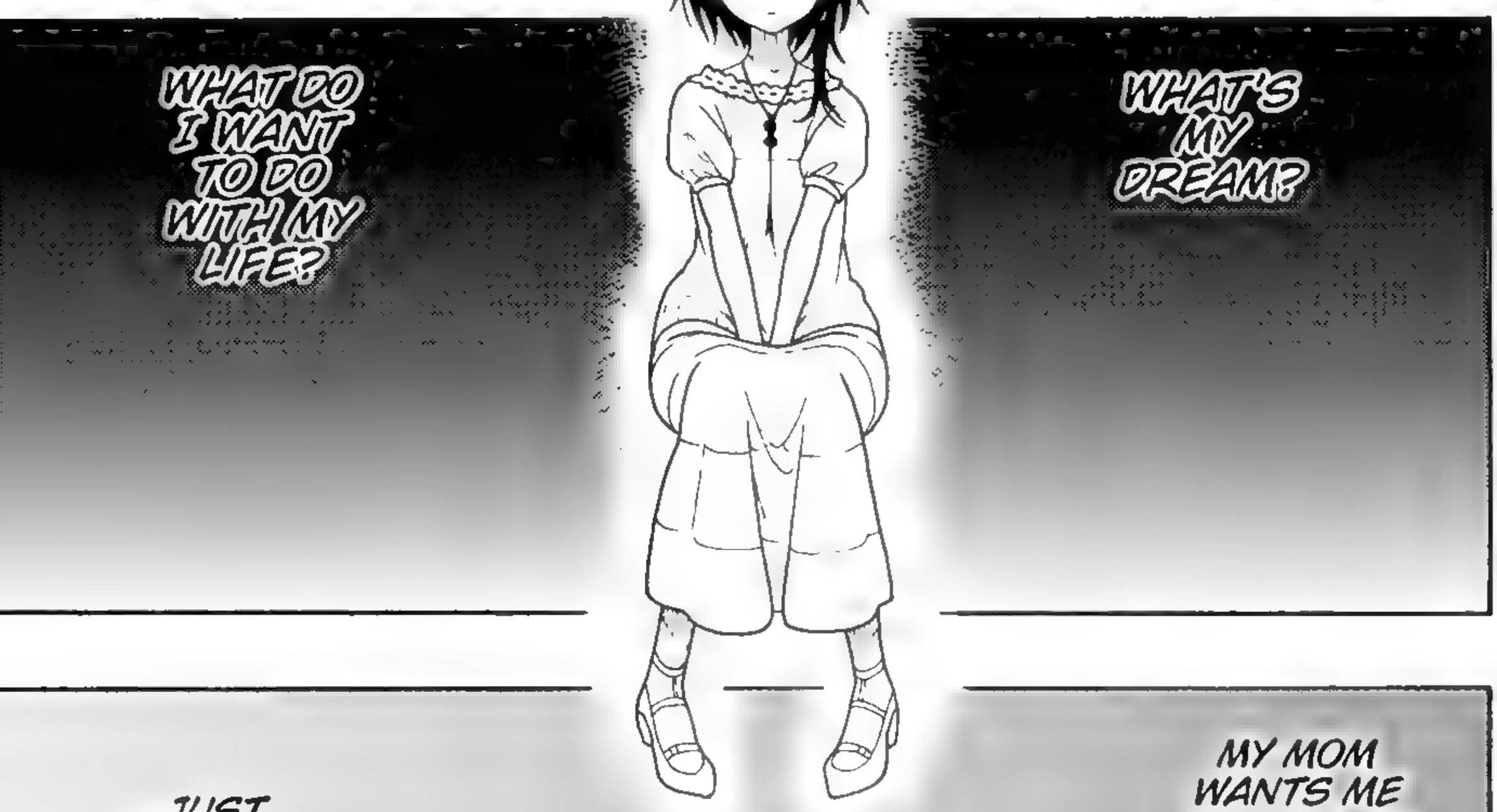
FWOOO

PATTA
Huh ?

Chapter 123: Suitable

...AND I HAVE A LOT ON MY MIND.

MY NAME IS KOSAKI ONODERA. I'M A SECOND-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT...



...JUST BEING NAÏVE?

OR AM I...

...IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE OUT THERE FOR ME? SOMETHING THAT ONLY I COULD DO?

BUT I CAN'T HELP WONDERING...

MY MOM WANTS ME TO TAKE ON THE FAMILY BUSINESS.

FIGURE IT OUT FOR YOURSELF!

HOW SHOULD I KNOW?!

HOW SHOULD I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE?

YOU'RE STILL FREAKING OUT BECAUSE OF YOUR COUNSELING SESSION THE OTHER DAY?

YOU SAID YOU'D GIVE ME ADVICE...

I'M SURE HE'D BE STOKED.

WELL, MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST MARRY ICHIJO.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!!

GAH!

DON'T BRING THAT UP!!

I can't exactly criticize, since I followed along...

WELL, HECK. YOU DID PICK YOUR HIGH SCHOOL BASED ON WHERE ICHIJO WAS GOING...

SHLRP

NO... I LIKE IT FINE.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? YOU DON'T LIKE WORKING AT THE SWEET SHOP?

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FIGURE THIS OUT.

WELL, LISTEN, KOSAKI.

YEAH.

YOUR DREAM IS TO BE A TRANSLATOR, RIGHT, RURI?

HOW DID YOU FIGURE THAT OUT?

I THINK RUNNING THE SHOP WITH MY PARENTS AND HARU SOUNDS LIKE FUN.

I LOVE JAPANESE SWEETS, EVEN IF I'M NOT GOOD AT MAKING THEM.

BUT...I JUST THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE OTHER POSSIBILITIES...

TRANS-LATING IT IN YOUR HEAD?!

That's amazing.

AND I READ THE BOOK, TRANSLATING IT IN MY HEAD AS I WENT...

ONE TIME, A NEW BOOK CAME OUT BY A FOREIGN AUTHOR I REALLY LOVE.

WELL... I'VE ALWAYS LOVED BOOKS.

THE TRANSLATOR INTERPRETED THE BOOK TOTALLY DIFFERENTLY FROM HOW I UNDERSTOOD IT.

AT FIRST I JUST CHALKED IT UP TO DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW, BUT THEN ONE DAY I GOT MY HANDS ON THE TRANSLATION.

Translation

What the heck?!

THE REVIEWER HAD A TOTALLY DIFFERENT IMPRESSION OF THE BOOK THAN I'D HAD.

PASO

AND THEN ONE DAY...

...I READ A REVIEW ONLINE BY SOMEONE WHO'D READ THE JAPANESE TRANSLATION.

WOW. THAT'S IMPRESSIVE, RURI.

HONESTLY? I WAS TICKED OFF.

I COULD'VE DONE IT A HUNDRED TIMES BETTER!

I know it!

AND IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT I WANTED TO SERVE AS A BRIDGE, TO MORE ELOQUENTLY CONVEY THE INTENTIONS OF AUTHORS TO THEIR READERS.

...BECAUSE OF THE INEPTITUDE OF THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR TRANSLATING THEIR MESSAGE.

THAT WAS WHEN I REALIZED THAT LOTS OF BOOKS FAIL TO REALLY TOUCH PEOPLE AS DEEPLY AS THEY COULD...

NOBODY CAN TELL YOU YOUR CALLING BUT YOU.

BUT THAT'S JUST ME.

Good point.

YEAH...

SIGH...

IT'S KIND OF EMBAR-RASSING TO TALK ABOUT.

RURI, YOU'RE SUCH A GROWN-UP!

WOW!!

So cool!!

YEAH... I'LL TRY THAT.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD ASK AROUND MORE.

THEY MIGHT POINT STUFF OUT ABOUT YOU THAT YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED.

THEN AGAIN, I DO THINK IT'S VALID TO SEEK OTHER PEOPLE'S OBJECTIVE INPUT.

?

AS FOR ME...

RURI'S SO AMAZING.

...AND WHAT SHE NEEDS TO DO TO GET THERE!

SHE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT HER GOAL IS...

WHAT CAREER DO I THINK...

...IS SUITABLE FOR YOU?

HUH?

HMM...

WHAT KIND OF JOB MIGHT SUIT YOU...

OH...

AND YOU WANT MY OPINION?

OR WHAT I WANT TO BE IN THE FUTURE.

YEAH...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO DO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL...

FOR EXAM-PLE...

FROM WHAT I KNOW OF YOUR ABILITIES...

Scribble Scribble

RATIONAL?

AND CHOOSE THE JOB THAT SEEMS THE MOST RATIONAL AND REALISTIC.

...I'D THINK ABOUT YOUR ABILITIES, RESOURCES, CONNECTIONS, AND SO ON...

IF I WERE IN YOUR SHOES...

WELL, HERE'S HOW I'D LAY THEM OUT.

TA-DAA!!

WHOA!!

YOU'RE GOOD AT DRAWING PEOPLE OUT...

...AND YOU'RE REALLY ACCEPTING OF ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE.

BUT OVERALL, YOU'RE VERY WELL-ROUNDED...

YOU RELATE WELL TO EVERYBODY.

AND YOU'RE PARTICULARLY GOOD AT INTER-PERSONAL COMMUNICA-TION.

AND YOU TEND TO BE A BIT PASSIVE.

YOU'RE ON THE INTRO-VERTED SIDE.

JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER SAID, I THINK YOU'D BE GOOD AT RUNNING YOUR FAMILY BUSINESS.

ALSO, IN ART CLASS, YOU DEMONSTRATE A STRONG AESTHETIC SENSE. YOU'RE DETAIL ORIENTED AND GOOD WITH YOUR HANDS.

THOSE ABILITIES WOULD PROBABLY MAKE YOU AN EXCELLENT TEAM PLAYER OR CUSTOMER SERVICE PERSON IF YOU WENT TO WORK FOR A LOCAL BUSINESS OR CORPORATION.

I see...

OH...

TAP TAP

INTERESTING. I'M SUITED TO RUNNING THE FAMILY BUSINESS...

JUST LIKE MOM SAID.

NO, THAT'S OKAY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT.

Thanks any-way!

IF YOU GIVE ME ANOTHER DAY, I COULD PREPARE A MORE DETAILED PRESENTATION, COMPLETE WITH VISUAL AIDS.

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

...MAKES ME FEEL KIND OF SAD...

...THE IDEA THAT MY FUTURE'S ALREADY SET IN STONE...

BUT STILL, FOR SOME REASON...

NOT THAT I'M AGAINST THE IDEA...

...I HAVE THIS FAINT HOPE...

YES...

I GUESS DEEP DOWN...

SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE REALLY REWARDING TO DEDICATE MY LIFE TO...!

THAT THERE'S SOMETHING ONLY I COULD DO.

...THAT I HAVE SOME KIND OF POTENTIAL.

BUT...

IS THAT REALLY TRUE?

AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

HUH?

I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO DO IN THE FUTURE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD SUIT ME, EITHER.

YEAH... I'VE BEEN STRUGGLING WITH THE SAME THING.

REALLY?

GEE, THANKS...

Heh heh ...

You're good at "every-thing!

YEAH, BUT THE AWESOME THING ABOUT YOU, CHITOGE, IS THAT I CAN PICTURE YOU DOING ANYTHING YOU WANT!

...."WE OWE IT TO THE WORLD TO PUT OUR TALENTS TO WORK."

MY MOM...

...ALWAYS SAYS...

IT SEEMS SO HARD.

HOW DOES A PERSON FIGURE OUT WHAT THEY REALLY WANT TO DO?

YEAH...

BUT SHE DOESN'T JUST MEAN THAT TALENTED PEOPLE HAVE TO WORK HARD.

WE ALL HAVE A ROLE IN THE WORLD.

SHE ALWAYS TELLS ME IT'S MY JOB TO FIND THAT ROLE.

AND ALL OF US SHOULD MAKE THE MOST OF OUR ABILITIES.

EVERY-ONE'S GOOD AT SOME-THING.

A ROLE...?

I WONDER IF I HAVE ONE TOO.

I STILL HAVE NO IDEA, THOUGH.

Heh heh...

IF I NEVER FIGURE IT OUT...

...I NEVER FIND MY ROLE?

BUT WHAT IF...

I'M SO CONFUSED.

RATS.

I JUST DON'T KNOW.

I JUST...

...WHAT I WANT TO DO.

I HAVE NO IDEA...

SIGH...

HUH?

I WISH...

ICHIJO...

HUH?

OH!!

ONO-DERA!!

ICHIJO!

OH!

I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT!

B-BMP

I COME HERE A LOT, BUT I CAN'T TELL HER THAT!!

I MEAN, SINCE YOU SHARED IT WITH ME AND ALL...

UH... SOME-TIMES.

WHAT A COINCI-DENCE!

DO YOU COME HERE OFTEN?

OH...

YOUR FUTURE, HUH?

YEAH, IT'S HARD TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE.

SHE'S CONFIDING IN ME!

BUT YOU WANT TO BE A CIVIL SERVANT.

YOU'VE GOT A GOAL. THAT'S GREAT.

JUST BECAUSE IT'S A STABLE, UPSTANDING CAREER.

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF CIVIL SERVANT I WANT TO BE.

IN THAT SENSE, WE'RE STILL IN THE SAME BOAT.

NOT REALLY.

I'VE MADE THAT MY GOAL, BUT ONLY BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO WIND UP A YAKUZA.

B-BMP

UH, BECAUSE YOU WERE GOING HERE...

HUH?!

SO WHY DID YOU CHOOSE BONYARI HIGH, ANYWAY?

I... UH...

BECAUSE IT'S CLOSE TO WHERE I LIVE!

WE SHOULD FIGURE OUT OUR FUTURE PLANS PRETTY SOON.

HERE WE ARE, HALFWAY THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL...

RIGHT.

ULP!

WELL, ANYWAY, MOVING RIGHT ALONG...

YEAH, BUT THE OTHER SCHOOL YOU GOT INTO WAS EVEN CLOSER...

HUH?

OR MAYBE WHILE YOU'RE HELPING WITH THE FAMILY BUSINESS, SOMETHING ELSE WILL COME UP.

...YOU MIGHT FIGURE IT OUT IN COLLEGE ...

IF YOU DON'T FIGURE IT OUT DURING HIGH SCHOOL...

THERE'S NO DEADLINE FOR FIGURING OUT WHAT YOU WANT TO DO IN LIFE.

WELL, I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD GET TOO ANXIOUS ABOUT IT.

Right?

I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO DECIDE RIGHT NOW WHAT WE DO AND DON'T WANT TO DO WITH THE REST OF OUR LIVES.

I STILL WANT TO KEEP MYSELF OPEN TO NEW THINGS TOO.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST TAKE YOUR TIME DECIDING.

THANK YOU, ICHIJO.

SO, IF IT WERE UP TO YOU...

...WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO WITH MY LIFE?

HUH?!

IF I HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I WANT TO DO YET, I JUST NEED TO KEEP LOOKING.

HE'S RIGHT.

IT'S THAT SIMPLE.

OH!

AND IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP...

...JUST LET ME KNOW!

ISN'T THERE SOMETHING YOU DREAM OF DOING?

EVEN IF IT'S TOTALLY UNREALISTIC...

OH...

WELL...

I DUNNO...

WHAT WOULD I HAVE HER DO?

MARRY ME...?!

I CAN'T SAY THAT!

B-BMP

I...

I WANT...

...

IF IT CAN BE TOTALLY UNREALISTIC...

WELL...

I...

UM...

WELL... ICHIJO...

DO YOU THINK I'D MAKE...

...A GOOD WIFE?

B-BMP B-BMP

HUH...

WAIT...

YOU MEAN...

B-BMP

B-BMP B-BMP B-BMP

HA HA HA HA! I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!!

Augh! Why couldn't I have held out just a little longer?!

OF COURSE...

OF COURSE SHE DIDN'T MEAN ME!

I knew it all along!

IF I MARRIED SOME UNKNOWN PERSON...

HYPOTHET-ICALLY!!

FOR SOME-ONE!!

FOR ME...

Sheesh...

WELL, I'D REALLY ENVY YOUR HUSBAND!

RIGHT... HYPOTHET-ICALLY... OF COURSE!

HUH?

SIGH

PHEW

BUT I'M A TER-RIBLE COOK...

THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE!

UM... I MEAN, BECAUSE YOU'RE SO NICE. I'M SURE YOU'D MAKE A GREAT WIFE!

WELL THEN, YOU SHOULD JUST MARRY A GUY WHO CAN COOK!

YOU'RE RIGHT.

TEE HEE!

HOW COME?

UH...

HUH?

I GUESS...

...THAT'S WHAT I'LL HAVE TO DO!

...WHAT I WANT TO DO WITH MY LIFE.

I STILL DON'T KNOW EXACT-LY...

...I WANT TO BE A GOOD WIFE...

BUT FOR NOW ...

AND SOME-DAY, I'M SURE I'LL FIGURE IT OUT.

BUT I'LL KEEP LOOK-ING.

WHAT?!

CAN I MAKE DINNER TONIGHT?

I'M HOME!

SO I GUESS I'D BETTER WORK ON MY COOKING!

Japanese Confections
Onodera

Hey !!
Uh, I just ate three bowls of katsudon!
Er... I've got a lunch date with Mrs. Tanaka!
You guys !!

TAK

BLACK TIGER AND WHITE FANG, REPORTING FOR DUTY AT THE SITE.

MASTER CLAUDE...

GOOD.

LET'S REVIEW YOUR ASSIGN-MENT.

Chapter 124: Lady

YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS TO INFILTRATE HIS PARTY AND STEAL THE TOP-SECRET DOCUMENT HE'S HARBORING.

...IS HOSTING A PARTY THIS EVENING ON THE ENORMOUS CRUISE SHIP VISIBLE FROM YOUR CURRENT LOCATION.

SECCA-CHINO, THE LEADER OF AN ENEMY ORGANIZA-TION...

BEEP

YES, SIR!

ONLY MALE AND FEMALE PAIRS CAN ATTEND THE PARTY.

SEISHIRO AND PAULA, YOU'RE PERFECT FOR THE JOB.

IT'S KIND OF HARD TO TELL HIM AT THIS POINT...

YOU SHOULD TELL HIM.

UH, YEAH...

BLACK TIGER...

DOES MASTER CLAUDE STILL THINK YOU'RE A BOY?

I TRAINED MY HIGH-SOCIETY MANNERS AT A FINISHING SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.

HA!

OH HO HO HO...

REST ASSURED, YOU'VE NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN, DAH-LING!

WELL... THAT'S GOOD.

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT YOU AND I ARE AN ACE TEAM TOGETHER.

WELL, LET'S GET THIS TAKEN CARE OF.

WE'RE GOING UNDERCOVER IN A REAL HIGH-SOCIETY PARTY. IF ANYONE SUSPECTS US, WE'RE GONERS.

LET'S NOT GET COMPLACENT, PAULA.

THE OPERATION BEGINS AT DUSK.

UNTIL THEN, WE CAN SPLIT UP AND GATHER INTEL INDEPEN-DENTLY.

OKAY!

AS LONG AS YOU CAN HANDLE THE MALE ROLE...

GOT IT.

WHAT'S WRONG, PAULA?

...

B... BLACK TIGER...

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE...

RRRRING RRRING

WHERE'S PAULA?

SHE'S LATE....

AAAUGH!

THE HECK THEY DID!!

PAULA, YOU IDIOT!!

I'M SORRY, BLACK TIGER... I HAD ABOUT FORTY ICE CREAMS TODAY...

Sigh...

I should've been on my guard...

MAYBE THE ENEMY CAUGHT ON TO US AND POISONED THEM...

Hahh... Hahh...

WHAT?!

...

BECAUSE OF YOUR STOMACH, YOU CAN'T MAKE IT?!

TOOOOT!

I'LL NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME!!

THE SHIP'S ABOUT TO LEAVE...

HOW CAN I FIND A FEMALE PARTNER NOW?!

ONLY MALE AND FEMALE PAIRS CAN ATTEND THE PARTY!!

NOW WHAT?!

OH, HEY, TSUGUMI!

WISH I COULD GO ALONE, BUT...

WHAT'LL I DO?! THERE'S NO TIME TO FIND A REPLACE-MENT GIRL PARTNER...

ACK!

ATTENTION, ALL PASSEN-GERS... PREPARE FOR DEPARTURE ...

DARN THING SCARED AWAY ALL THE FISH!

DIDJA SEE THAT HUGE CRUISE SHIP OUT THERE?

GASP!

I JUST GOT DONE FISHING. IT'S SUPER FUN...

DIDN'T CATCH ANYTHING TODAY, THOUGH.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

R-RAKU ICHIJO ?!

WHAT A COINCIDENCE...

FWSSH

TOOOT

HUH?

WHA ...?!

C'MERE A MINUTE !!

R-RIGHT! RAKU ICHIJO ...!!

HAHH...

HAHH...

HAHH...

HAHH...

PHEW...

WE BARELY MADE IT!

HAHH...

UH... TSUGUMI?

WELL...

...

WHAT'S GOING ON?

I'M SORRY.

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY!

WHAT?! AN UNDERCOVER OPERATION?!

I'LL DO WHAT I CAN TO HELP.

I GUESS I JUST HAFTA GO WITH THE FLOW HERE...

OKAY...

I OWE YOU FOR THIS!

I'LL HANDLE THE REST!

JUST STAND THERE NEXT TO ME.

PLEASE!

I REALLY DOUBT I'LL BE OF MUCH HELP...

BUT...

CLAP!

I KNOW. I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO BE.

I'M REALLY NOT MUCH OF A FIGHTER, TSUGUMI...

WAIT, FOR REAL?!

PROB-ABLY NOT?!

PROB-ABLY NOT...

B

B-BMP

BY THE WAY... THERE'S NO DANGER INVOLVED, RIGHT?

It's pretty reveal-ing...

DO YOU PLAN ON WEARING THAT TO THE PARTY?

BY THE WAY...

I KNOW I WAS IN A TIGHT SPOT, BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE I GOT RAKU ICHIJO INVOLVED!

GEEZ, I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS SITUATION.

IF THE MISTRESS FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS...

I can't breathe!

AND I'M WEARING THE CLOTHES YOU HAD ON, SO THEY REALLY DON'T FIT.

I THINK WE'D BETTER GET SOME NEW OUTFITS.

RIGHT?

BLUSH

...WAS JUST WEARING!

THE CLOTHES TSUGUMI...

THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE PAULA'S DRESS! IT BARELY FITS ME....

THIS...

QUIT STARING!

AGH!

CLOBBER

HURRY UP AND TAKE 'EM OFF!

MURMUR MURMUR

UNLIKE PAULA, I NEVER WENT TO FINISHING SCHOOL!

Wow. I can't believe we're on a boat!

IN A GIRLY ROLE, NO LESS!

north side

west side

GEEZ. I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M DOING A MISSION WITH IRAKU ICHIJO!

DON'T LOOK AT ME!

WHAT KINDA DRESS SHOULD I CHOOSE?

...

CHOOSE SOME-THING YOU LIKE.

LET'S START WITH YOUR DRESS.

ASK ONE OF THE STORE GIRLS!

WELL, DON'T ASK ME!

THE MISTRESS MADE ME WEAR THEM A FEW TIMES, BUT NEVER ON MY OWN!

I'VE NEVER WORN A DRESS!

READY!

FWHSH

WHAT?! BUT MY CHEST...!

WHAT IS THIS?! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO PUT THIS ON?

STOP FUSSING AND CHANGE!

ISN'T THIS SHOWING TOO MUCH?

HUH? EVEN THIS IS EXPOSED?!

...

HOW'S IT GOING?

...AL-MOST... I'M... READY ...

MMF...

HOW DO I LOOK?

IS IT WEIRD...?

WHAT...DID I SCREW UP SOMEHOW?

HEY!! SAY SOMETHING!!

HUH?!

NO... YOU'RE FINE...

Y-YOU LOOK FINE!

THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH THAT DRESS!

UH... IT...IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU, I GUESS...

WHY DID YOU HESITATE?

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, SAY IT!

I DON'T WANT TO JEOPARDIZE THE ASSIGNMENT!

...BUT I'M DOING MY BEST HERE!

I KNOW I CAN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO THE MISTRESS...

ISN'T THAT KINDA COLD?

GEEZ... WHAT A VAGUE RESPONSE.

WELL, IT'S PRETTY MASCULINE, YOU KNOW....

THE WAY I TALK?

...BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TALK LIKE A GIRL!

I GUESS SO...

WELL THEN... KOFF...

UM, WHAT ABOUT THE WAY YOU TALK?

WHAT WAS I EXPECTING, ANYWAY?

UGH... THIS FEELS WEIRD!

Then, I shall attempt it.

YOU'LL GET USED TO IT.

NOT THAT TACHI-BANA!

Not when she talks with a dialect!

I RECKON I'LL TRY, BUT I AIN'T SURE.

OR YOU COULD TRY TALKING LIKE TACHIBANA ...

MAYBE AT LEAST USE THE POLITE TONE YOU USE WITH ONODERA AND THE OTHERS...

LIKE TACHI-BANA?

...

HMM...

TWITCH TWITCH

HEH...HEH HEH...HEH

I'M SURE IF YOU DO, EVERYTHING WILL GO FINE.

NOW, YOU JUST GOTTA SMILE.

SMILE

SMILE ?

RUSTLE

MY ASSIGNMENT IS TO GET CLOSE TO HIM AND STEAL THE DISK HE'S CARRYING.

DISK?

WA HA HA...

THAT'S SECCACHINO, THE ENEMY BOSS.

LISTEN UP...

JUST ENJOY THE PARTY.

HOW CAN I HELP?

HE CARRIES IT ON HIS PERSON AT ALL TIMES!

IT CONTAINS THE TOP-SECRET FILE WE'RE AFTER.

MURMUR

MURMUR

MURMUR MURMUR

I RECOGNIZE SOME OF THESE PEOPLE FROM HOLLYWOOD MOVIES!

The lead roles!

UH...

OH, IS THAT ALL?!

WELL, THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD.

Let's go.

MURMUR

THE DAUGHTER OF SOME MAGNATE?

MURMUR

WHO'S THAT?

GOSH, SHE'S STUNNING!

DON'T WORRY.

HAVE SOME CONFI-DENCE!

AM I DOING SOMETHING WRONG?!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHISPER WHISPER

HEY!

HOW COME WE'RE ATTRACTING SO MUCH ATTENTION?

WHAT A GORGEOUS DRESS!

GOOD EVENING! WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

PARDON US!

HUH?

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!

CONFIDENCE?

I'M NOT EVEN CONFIDENT PEOPLE SEE ME AS A GIRL!

HELLO.

YOU LOOK ABSOLUTELY BREATHTAKING.

IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME AT THIS SORT OF PARTY? WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN US?

IS THAT SO?

MY FATHER RUNS A TRADING COMPANY...

ER... I...I'M FROM THE WEST COAST...

CHATTER

STRANGELY ENOUGH, THEY SEEM TO BE TREATING ME LIKE A LADY!

CHATTER

W... WHAT?!

HEY, NO FAIR! WE WERE TALKING TO HER FIRST!

TAKE PITY ON US FOR A SHORT SPELL, WON'T YOU?

WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN US FOR SOME WINE, MADEMOISELLE?

OUR DATES ABANDONED US... WE'RE A PAIR OF LOST PUPPIES!

HEY!

I...

ER...

EXCUSE ME, BUT THE LADY'S WITH ME.

AHEM!

WHA ...?!

Run along, would ya?

THERE'S SOME MILK OVER THERE...

WHAT'S THAT, LITTLE BOY?

WHAT?

EEP!

GO EASY ON HER, PLEASE.

MADEMOISELLE IS MY BRIDE-TO-BE!

IT'S HER FIRST FORMAL FUNCTION, AND SHE'S A BIT NERVOUS.

Life ain't fair, man.

Rats. Let's get outta here.

SHUFF

SHUFF

AH HA HA. OF COURSE, DEAR!

I'M SORRY, DARLING! IT'S ALL JUST SO OVER-WHELMING!

ER... HA HA HA... YES!

WOW...

REALLY?

I'm flashing back to the school festival!

I DIDN'T EXPECT SO MUCH ATTENTION...

IT'S LIKE PLAYING ROMEO AGAIN!

GEEZ, I WAS NERVOUS!

B-BMP

B-BMP

SIGH

THANKS. YOU SAVED ME BACK THERE.

DON'T MENTION IT.

LIKE I SAID, YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE!

It's weird if you don't!

IT'S JUST EVIDENCE OF HOW ATTRACTIVE YOU LOOK.

I GUESS MEN WILL HIT ON ANY FEMALE THEY SEE...

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

HUH?

ME?

Where'd the boss go?

ATTRACTIVE?

Huh?

?!

I CAN'T FIND THE BOSS!

WHERE'D HE GO?!

HEY, TSU-GUMI!

...FIND ME ATTRACTIVE TOO?

DO YOU...

WE FOLLOW HIM, OF COURSE!

NOW WHAT?

RATS! LOOKS LIKE HE'S HEADED FOR THE CASINO!

CASINO

WHEREVER HE GOES, WE HAVE TO ADAPT AND STICK WITH HIM, EVEN IF WE HAVE TO CHANGE OUR DISGUISES.

WE NEED TO GET THAT DISK! UNDERSTOOD?

UNDER-STOOD!

WE HAVE TO COMPLETE THE ASSIGN-MENT TONIGHT!

THIS IS THE LAST NIGHT THE CRUISE SHIP WILL SAIL IN JAPANESE WATERS.

THE GANG LEADER, YOU MEAN?

YEAH. I KNOW HE LIKES BUNNIES AND ALL...

MAN, THAT CUSTOMER'S A PAIN!

NOW... WHAT KIND OF COSTUME DO WE NEED?

SNEAK

BWA HA HA HA HA!

HE'S MONOPOLIZING ALL OF THE BUNNIES WE HAVE!

...BUT THIS IS EXTREME!

HUH?

WHAAAAAAT ?!

Other candidates for Tsugumi's dress
Nothing U decent...

Chapter 125: Girls Are...

NISEKOI
False Love

WOULD YOU CARE FOR A REFRESHING VODKA MARTINI?

WHAT?

AHEM...

MASTER SECCACHINO...

WELL, WELL! WHAT HAVE WE GOT HERE?

YOU'RE THE CUTEST LITTLE BUNNY I'VE EVER SEEN!

BOING

FWISH

IT'S FOR THE MISSION, AFTER ALL!

GAK! I HAVE TO DO THIS...

Boy, I bet she hates this...

YOU CAN DO IT, TSUGUMI!

COME ON OVER, SWEETIE! HAVE A SEAT!

THANK YOU, SIR...

TEE HEE HEE...

IF I CAN JUST GET IT FROM HIM...

THERE IT IS!!

WHERE'S THAT DISK?!

LET ME GIVE YOU A LITTLE MAS-SAGE...

OH, MASTER SECCACHINO, YOU MUST BE SO TIRED!

PAT

PAT

PAT

OOOH, I LIKE THIS!

GASP!

BWA HA HA HA

SHOOP

HUH?

IS IT? TOO BAD... TIME TO GO.

MASTER SECCACHINO, IT'S TIME FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT.

HEY! TSUGUMI!

I PUT ON THIS STUPID COSTUME FOR NOTHING?!

I don't believe this...

HEY...

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP?

...

WELL...

I'M PERFECTLY FINE.

I'M ON A MISSION, AFTER ALL.

POOR THING...

Heh heh...

DROOP

YOU LOOK PALE...

YOU OKAY?

RAKU ICHIJO ...

YEAH ...

WHERE DID HE GO?

SO...

I'M TIRED.

Heh heh heh...

SURE. LEAVE IT TO ME!

IF YOU COULD CONTINUE TO ASSIST WITH THE COSTUME PART...

I'LL KEEP TRYING TO GET MY HANDS ON THAT DISK.

SPLOO—OSH

TEE

HEE

THE POOL!!

AND WHAT'S WITH THOSE SWIM-SUITS?

BWAHAHA

YEAH, WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?!

THAT BOSS CERTAINLY HAS PARTICULAR TASTES.

APPARENTLY, THEY'RE A SPECIAL JAPANESE STYLE.

THEY DEFINITELY HAVE A UNIQUE LOOK...

WHAT?!

I FOUND SOME FOR SALE!

I'LL JUST HAVE TO LET THIS ONE GO...

I DOUBT THOSE SWIMSUITS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE SHIP.

HMPH. WELL, THAT'S KIND OF A RELIEF.

HEY, TSUGUMI!

HUH?

ER, YOU'RE WELCOME?

? Heh heh...

NOW I CAN FULFILL MY DUTIES...

THANK YOU, RAKU ICHIJO.

GRRR

OKAY... GOOD LUCK!

HUH?

SEE YA!

Whatever!

WELL, I GUESS I HAVE TO DO THIS, DON'T I?

KERPLUNK

LOOKS LIKE HE'S MOVED ON...

GONE

I CAN BARELY MOVE IN THIS SLINKY CHINESE DRESS...

YEESH.

BWAHAHAHA

GEEZ, THAT LOOKS GREAT ON HER.

TMP!

HERE I GO...?!

ANYWAY, HE WON'T GET PAST ME THIS TIME!

I CAN'T TAKE IT!!

AUGH!

KRASH!!

EEK

TSU-GUMI?!

IF I CAN JUST GET CLOSE ENOUGH...

I KNOW WHERE HE'S KEEPING THE DISK.

NIBBLE

WHAT AM I DOING HERE?!

I'M SO BUSY CHANGING COSTUMES, THERE'S NO TIME TO GET NEAR SECCACHINO!

TRUE.

SHOOP

I KNOW!!

OH...

HEY...

YOU LOOK FAMILIAR...

?

MASTER SECCA-CHINO, WOULD YOU CARE FOR ANOTHER DRINK?

HMM ?

I JUST NEED TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO GRAB THAT DISK!

IF I JUST NEED TO APPROACH SECCACHINO, I MIGHT AS WELL GO BACK TO DRESSING LIKE A GUY!!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!

YOU'RE BLACK TIGER, FROM THE BEEHIVE!!

OH!

Rats.

WHO'S THIS?

RUSTLE

He knows what I look like?

EEP!

HE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME WHEN I DRESSED LIKE A GIRL!!

BLACK TIGER

Girl clothes

Boy clothes

SHOOOOP!!

I SUSPECTED THE BEEHIVE WOULD BE AFTER THIS DISK...

GAH!

YIIIIKES!

YOUR EXPLOITS ARE QUITE LEGENDARY. I NEVER WOULD'VE GUESSED.

AND I CERTAINLY NEVER SUSPECTED YOU'RE FEMALE!

BUT I WASN'T EXPECTING TO SEE YOU, BLACK TIGER.

BUT WITH RAKU ICHIJO HERE...

AGAINST THIS MANY ASSAILANTS, I WOULD STAND A CHANCE ALONE...

WHAT HAVE I DONE?

YOU'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY GOOD-LOOKING, BLACK TIGER...

HMM... NOW THAT I GET A GOOD LOOK AT YOU...

GRIN GRIN

AND I GOT HIM INTO THIS.

HE'S THE MISTRESS'S BOYFRIEND.

I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO SAVE HIM.

RAKU ICHIJO.

I HAVE TO GET HIM OUT!

WHAT ?!

YOU'RE KIDDING ...

...

...I'LL LET YOU BOTH GO.

IF YOU TAKE OFF ALL YOUR CLOTHES, RIGHT HERE...

I HAVE AN IDEA.

LEER LEER

Heh heh heh...

BUT I GOT RAKUICHIJO INTO THIS SITUATION.

EVEN IF I DO IT, HE WON'T LET US GO.

I GET IT.

TSU-GUMI ?!

I'LL DO IT.

FINE.

...BUT LET MY FRIEND GO!

DO WITH ME WHAT YOU WILL...

BUT PROMISE ME THIS...

HOW DARE YOU...

YOU DISGUSTING PIG!

HEY, YOU DIRTY OLD CREEP!

YOU'RE SOME BIG SHOT BOSS, RIGHT?

WELL THEN, YOU SHOULD LEARN TO TREAT WOMEN WITH MORE RESPECT!

DIRTY OLD CREEP?

RAKU ICHIJO...

DON'T LISTEN TO THIS SLIME BAG!

DON'T TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES, TSUGUMI.

...YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THIRD CLASS!

IF YOU TREAT WOMEN POORLY...

I DON'T CARE HOW BIG YOUR GANG IS...

NOW I'VE DONE IT...

B-BMP

OOPS.

B-BMP

YOU...

...!

HOW DARE YOU!!

YOU LITTLE BRAT ...

...!!

BUT...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. DO YOUR STUFF!!

I KNOW YOU CAN TAKE THESE GUYS!

TSU-GUMI !!

Uh-oh...

FINISH THEM!

KCHACK!!

KRA SH

BOOM!!

KRAK

KRAK KRAK

KRAK

RRRUMBL

WHY'RE WE SHAK-ING?!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

RRRR RUMBLE

DRAT! THERE'S MORE OF THEM?!

KLAK

BOTH OF YOU, JUST GET OUT OF H...

GAH! FORGET IT!

I GOT YOUR S.O.S. SIGNAL.

SORRY I'M LATE, BLACK TIGER...

Tummy Medicine

SMAK SMAK

NICE TRY, SCUMBAG!!

CLOBBER

OOF!!

UM... WILL YOU LET THIS SLIDE IF I TAKE OFF MY CLOTHES ?

...

YOU READY FOR THIS?

HEY THERE.

READY?

JUMP!!

WE'LL JUMP STRAIGHT INTO THE OCEAN! FOLLOW ME!

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

WHAT A DAY!!

FOR REAL ?!

...BEFORE THE BACK-UPS GET HERE.

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, RAKU ICHIJO...

WOW. SHE TOTALLY CREAMED THEM SINGLE-HANDEDLY!

RRRIP

UH...

WHA...?

RRRIP RRRIP

SHIK

HUH?

SLICE

SPLOOSH

WHAT?

SPLOOSH

WHY ME?!

SPLISH

TOOOOOT

SIGH...

AUGH!! WHAT A DAY!!

WHY DO THESE THINGS HAPPEN TO ME?!

CALM DOWN, TSU-GUMI!

AT LEAST WE SUR-VIVED!

GASP!

SPLISH

SPLOOSH!

WELL...

WHY'D I DO IT?

I'M THE ONE WHO GOT YOU INTO THIS MESS, AND YOU...

HUH?

RAKU ICHIJO...

WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

NO REASON.

A GUY DOESN'T NEED A REASON TO RISK HIS LIFE TO DEFEND A GIRL.

THAT'S ALL.

OH.

RIGHT. THAT'S JUST HOW YOU ARE.

?

THAT'S SO YOU.

I'M GLAD YOU WERE MY PARTNER TODAY.

...RAKU ICHIJO.

THANK YOU...

GRR.

SINCE WHEN DO YOU SMILE LIKE THAT?

WHOA.

DRIP DRIP

...IS WHY I FEEL THE WAY I DO...

GEEZ. I'M SO CONFUSED.

THIS...

GIRLS ARE SUPPOSED TO, RIGHT?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME TO SMILE!

HUH?! WHERE'RE YOU GOING?

GET BACK HERE!!

HUH?!

HEY!! WAIT, PAULA!! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!!

OH, HEY...

I'M JUST GOING TO GO GRAB SOME PIZZA. I DON'T WANT TO INTERRUPT.

Have fun. ♡

Volume 14--
Big Sister/END

HOW DID YUI UNITE THE CHAR SIU KAI?

In just two years...

HEY, I WAS WONDERING...

HER NAME IS NIGHT.

SHE WORKS AS YUI'S BODYGUARD.

YOU WANT TO KNOW?

Bonus-Comic:-Unification

RRUMBLE

I WAS THERE, BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW SHE DID IT.

WITH THE SPEED OF A THUNDERCLAP, SHE CAPTURED PEOPLE'S HEARTS LIKE MAGIC.

I'VE LIVED IN THIS WORLD A LONG TIME, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH ACHIEVEMENT BEFORE.

R... REALLY?!

RRUMBLE

HUH ? What's that mean?

I'LL TELL YOU...

...BUT I'M NOT CONFIDENT I'LL EXPLAIN IT WELL.

I TOLD YOU ALL, NO FIGHTING!!

STOP THAT!!

BA M!

JOLT

?!

Grrr ...

Grrr ...

...EACH FIGHTING OVER TURF, ALMOST ESCALATING INTO WAR...

BACK IN THOSE DAYS, THE CHAR SIU KAI WAS SPLIT IN MANY FACTIONS...

YUI, AGE 17

...I'LL...
I'LL...

IF YOU KEEP FIGHTING ...

SNIFFLE

NO FIGHTING !!

PLEASE, MEN! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?!

TREMBLE

STRIDE STRIDE

B-BUT HE...

D... DON!

OKAY, WE'LL STOP.

AWW...!

OH...

THAT WASN'T WHAT I EXPECTED!

Oh... I get it...

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY IT WAS SO EFFECTIVE...

BASICALLY, THE SAME THING HAPPENED ABOUT 13 TIMES. THEN THE CHAR SIU KAI UNIFIED.

Bonus Comic: Unification (END)

BONUS COMIC!!

Let's get moving!

All right, Miss Leader and Miss Gorilla...

Yeah... I guess so...

That was really some-thing.

Gee... We're pretty powerful when we all pull our secret moves together.

ZONKA

Somehow, the Magical Girls manage to conquer the minion of evil...

HOP

Huh...?

Who's that...?!

So you destroyed my minion, Magical Girls!!

Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!!

...Dr. Maiko!!

You're...

You know him, Rurin?!

A bunch of newbies... just as I suspected!

Oh, I heard tell there were some promising new Magical Girls in town, so I thought I'd stop by.

Magical Confectioner Kosaki!!

Whaat?! For real?

So he's the ultra bad guy?!

Evil

The one and only evil scientist bent on world domination: Dr. Maiko!

Oh, I know him! He's the one who unleashed all these minions of evil on the world!

Er... Dr. Maiko...?

Why do I do it? Huh?

World domination and all that...

Why do you do evil?

Rurin... You guys know each other?

Well, yeah.

Well, if you chose them, Rurin, I'm sure they're quite talented.

?!!

Whaaaat?!

BWA

HAHA!!

Oh, I don't actually care about world domination!!!

...with the Magical Girls who rush to stop me!!

?!!

...is because I want to do battle...

Then... why...?

???

The reason I set out to conquer the world...

Sigh...

And a nonstop onslaught of Magical Girls attacking me?

I mean, come on!

When you transform you're super sexy, and your costumes are sexy too! What's not to like?!

You Magical Girls are all cuties!!

...glad to be born a guy, y'know?

Makes a guy...

No matter what.

Right?

We've got to destroy him.

To be continued!! ...Probably, given the circumstances.

• There are quite a few of them, actually.